COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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No. 4.

VICTORIA.

REPORT ON THE STATISTICS OF THE COLONY FOR 1889.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 81, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1891.

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1891.

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104	Natal	1889
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No. 4.

VICTORIA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 81, Old Series.]

The Earl of HOPETOUN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Melbourne,
November 29, 1890.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of Victoria for the year 1889.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOPETOUN.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1889, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

1. Victoria occupies about a thirty-fourth part of the surface of the Australian continent, and contains about 87,884 square miles, or 56,245,760 acres. Great Britain, exclusive of the islands in the British seas, contains 88,006 square miles, and is, therefore, slightly larger than Victoria. Area of Victoria.

2. The area of the Australian continent is estimated to be somewhat under 3,000,000 square miles, but that area, added to the areas of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounts to nearly 3,100,000 square miles. The following are the areas of the different Colonies—the calculations being based on latitude and longitude and the generally accepted figure of the earth:— Areas of Australasian Colonies.

Areas of Australasian Colonies.

	Square Miles.
Victoria	87,884
New South Wales	309,175
Queensland	668,224
South Australia	903,425
Western Australia	975,920
Total Australia	2,944,628
Tasmania	26,375
New Zealand	104,235
Total Australasia	3,075,238

3. It will be noticed that Victoria is by far the smallest Colony on the Australian continent, and the smallest of the group except Area of Victoria and other Colonies.

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Tasmania. If the whole continent were to be divided into 100 equal parts, the area of Victoria would embrace three such parts, that of New South Wales 10, that of Queensland 23, that of South Australia 30, and that of Western Australia 34. Victoria is thus less than a third of the size of New South Wales, little more than an eighth of that of Queensland, about a tenth part of that of South Australia, and less than an eleventh of that of Western Australia.

Area of Australasia, Europe, and United States.

4. It may be mentioned that the area of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand is less by 680,764 square miles than the area of the continent of Europe (3,756,002 square miles), but exceeds by 47,647 square miles the area of the United States, exclusive of the Alaska territory (3,027,591 square miles).

Positions of Australasian capitals.

5. According to the latest and most reliable information, the following are the latitudes and longitudes of the capital cities of the different Australasian Colonies, the positions being the observatories at Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, and Adelaide, the Barracks Observatory at Hobart, the Survey Office Observatory at Wellington, and the Government House at Perth:—

Latitudes and Longitudes of Capitals of Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	Capital City.		
	Name.	Latitude S.	Longitude E.
		° ′ ″	° ′ ″
Victoria - -	Melbourne - -	37 49 53	144 58 32
New South Wales -	Sydney - -	33 51 41	151 12 23
Queensland - -	Brisbane - -	27 28 0	153 1 36
South Australia -	Adelaide - -	34 55 34	138 35 4
Western Australia -	Perth - -	31 57 24	115 52 42
Tasmania - -	Hobart - -	42 53 25	147 19 57
New Zealand -	Wellington -	41 16 25	174 46 38

Parliament of Victoria.

6. The Constitution Act of Victoria originally provided for the establishment of two Houses of Parliament, viz., the Legislative Council or Upper House, to consist of 30 members elected for 10 years, representing six districts, and a Legislative Assembly or Lower House, to consist of 60 members elected for five years, representing 37 districts; a property qualification to be necessary for the members and electors of both Houses. Since the passing of the Constitution Act the number of members of the Council has been increased to 48, elected for six years, representing 14 provinces; and the number of members of the Assembly has been increased to 95, elected for three years (unless sooner dissolved by the Governor), representing 84 districts; the property qualifica-

tion of the latter has been entirely abolished as regards both members and electors; that of the former has been reduced, and is at present as follows:—For members, the possession of freehold property of an annual value of 100*l.*; for electors, the possession of freehold property rated in some municipal district at not less than 10*l.* per annum, or occupation of leasehold property of not less than a 25*l.* annual rating. Graduates of universities within the British dominions, barristers and solicitors, legally qualified medical practitioners, officiating ministers of religion, certificated schoolmasters, and officers in the army and navy, when not on active service, also have votes for the Legislative Council.

Electors on the rolls.

7. The number of electors on the rolls of both Houses of the Legislature in 1888–9 and 1889–90 is shown in the following table:—

Electors on the Rolls, 1889 *and* 1890.

Description of Roll.	Legislative Council.		Legislative Assembly.	
	1888–9.	1889–90.	1888–9.	1889–90.
Ratepayers' roll -	137,450	150,739	207,341	218,958
General roll - -	1,112	1,077	36,389	34,631
Total - -	138,562	151,816	243,730	253,589

Proportion of members and electors of both Houses to population.

8. The population of Victoria at the end of December 1889 is estimated to have been 1,118,028, and there being 48 members and 151,816 electors for the Upper House, there is one member to every 23,292, and one elector to every 7·4, of the population. In like manner, there being 95 members of the Legislative Assembly, and 253,589 electors for that House, there is now one member to every 11,769, and one elector to every 4·4 of the population.

Proportion of members to electors.

9. The proportion of members to electors is one to every 3,163 for the Upper House, and one to every 2,669 for the Lower House.

Proportion of peers to population of United Kingdom.

10. The estimated population of the United Kingdom about the middle of 1888 was 37,808,892, and the Upper House consisted of 560 peers. The proportion was therefore one peer to every 67,500 of the population. If Victoria were to be represented in the same proportion so far as the Upper House is concerned that House would consist of no more than 17 members, instead of 48.

Proportion of members of Imperial Parliament to population.

11. The United Kingdom returns 670 members to the Imperial Parliament, viz., 495 for England, 72 for Scotland, and 103 for Ireland. The proportion of members to the population of the United Kingdom was one to every 56,431; or for England, one member to every 58,617 persons; for Scotland, one member to

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Representation to population in Victoria and United Kingdom.

every 56,626 persons; and for Ireland, one member to every 45,788 persons. If Victoria were to be represented according to population in the same proportion as the United Kingdom, she would, instead of sending 95 members to the Lower House, return only about 20; if in the same proportion as England, she would return 19; if in the same proportion as Scotland, about 20; and if in the same proportion as Ireland, 24.

Upper House in Australasian Colonies; members and electors.

12. With the exception of Western Australia,* all the Australasian Colonies possess Responsible Government, and an Upper and a Lower House of Parliament. In three of these Colonies the members of the Upper House are elected, and in the other three they are nominated by the Governor. The following is a statement of the number of members of that House, and the manner and term of their appointment in each Colony, also the number of electors in the three Colonies in which the appointment is by election :—

Upper House in Australasian Colonies.—Members and Electors.

Colony.	Number of Members.	Manner of Appointment.	Term of Appointment.	Number of Electors.
Victoria	48	Elected	Six years	151,816
New South Wales	73	Nominated	Life	—
Queensland	39	Nominated	Life	—
South Australia	24	Elected	Eight years	33,741
Tasmania	18	Elected	Five years	6,135
New Zealand	44	Nominated	Life	—

Upper House; qualification of members.

13. The following is a statement of the qualification of members of the Upper House in the various Colonies. Victoria appears to be the only Colony of the group in which a property qualification is necessary :—

Upper House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Members.

Victoria	At least 30 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty; possessed of freehold property in Victoria of the value of 100*l.* per annum.
New South Wales	At least 21 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
Queensland	At least 21 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
South Australia	At least 30 years of age; resident three years in the Colony; a natural-born or naturalised subject; or legal denizen.
Tasmania	At least 30 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty; or a holder of letters of denization or certificate of naturalisation.
New Zealand	At least 21 years of age; a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.

* A Bill has just passed the Imperial Parliament providing for the establishment of Responsible Government in Western Australia.

Upper House qualification of electors.

14. A property qualification for electors of members of the Upper House exists in the three Colonies in which the appointment is by election. The following is a description of the necessary qualifications:—

Upper House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Electors.

Victoria - -	At least 21 years of age; possessed of freehold property rated in some municipal district at not less than 10*l.* per annum, or occupying leasehold property of not less than a 25*l.* annual rating; or being a graduate of some university in the British dominions, a barrister, a solicitor, a legally qualified medical practitioner, an officiating minister of religion, a certificated schoolmaster, or an officer of the Army or Navy not on active service.
South Australia -	At least 21 years of age; possessed of a freehold estate of the value of 50*l.*, or a leasehold of 20*l.* annual value, with three years to run; or occupying a dwelling-house of 25*l.* annual value.
Tasmania - -	At least 21 years of age; and a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty; possessed of a freehold estate of the value of 20*l.* per annum, or a leasehold of 80*l.* per annum; or being a graduate of some university in the British dominions, an associate of arts of Tasmania, a barrister, a solicitor, a legally qualified medical practitioner, an officiating minister of religion, an officer or a retired officer of H.M. Army or Navy not on actual service, or a retired officer of the Tasmanian Volunteer Force.

Upper House; payment of members.

15. In South Australia members of the Upper House receive 200*l.* per annum for their services; in New Zealand they receive 100*l.* for every session attended if they live more than three miles from the Parliament buildings, in other cases no payment. In the remaining Colonies members of this House receive no remuneration for their services.

Lower House; members and electors.

16. In all the Australasian Colonies which possess Responsible Government the members of the Lower House are elected. The following table shows the number of members, the term for which they are elected, and the number of electors for this House in each Colony:—

Lower House in Australasian Colonies.—Members and Electors.

Colony.	Number of Members.	Term for which elected.	Number of Electors.
Victoria - - - -	95	Three years -	253,589
New South Wales - - -	137	Three years -	285,408
Queensland - - -	72	Five years -	72,458
South Australia - - -	54	Three years -	62,434
Tasmania - - - -	36	Five years -	25,312
New Zealand - - -	95	Three years -	175,410

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Lower House; qualification of members.

17. No property qualification is necessary for members for the Lower House in any of the Colonies. The following is the necessary qualification :—

Lower House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Members.

Victoria - -	At least 21 years of age, and resident in Victoria for the space of two years.
New South Wales -	At least 21 years of age, absolutely free, and a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
Queensland - -	At least 21 years of age, absolutely free, and qualified and registered as a voter in any electoral district.
South Australia -	Same qualification as an elector (*post*).
Tasmania - -	At least 21 years of age, and a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty.
New Zealand - -	Same qualification as an elector (*post*).

Lower House; qualification of electors.

18. To entitle a person to be an elector for members of the Lower House of Parliament a property qualification is not essential in any of the Australasian Colonies except Tasmania. A second vote in a different electoral district is, however, in most instances, acquired in respect to property. The following is a statement of the qualification of electors for this House in each of the Colonies:—

Lower House in Australasian Colonies.—Qualification of Electors.

Victoria - -	Any person at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, not subject to any legal incapacity, and having resided in Victoria for the space of one year, may vote by virtue of being included in the lists of ratepaying electors, or by virtue of being the holder of an "elector's right," but no person may vote twice in the same electoral district at one election.
New South Wales -	Any person at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, is entitled to be placed on the roll of electors either in respect to residence or property.

Queensland - -	Any person at least 21 years of age, absolutely free, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, and being a resident in any electoral district for a period of six months, is entitled to be placed on the roll of electors either in respect to residence or property.
South Australia -	Any person at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, untainted by crime, and having been on the electoral roll of his district for six months prior to the election is entitled to vote.
Tasmania - -	An elector must be at least 21 years of age, a natural-born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty, and must be the owner or occupier of property of any value, as shown on the assessment roll, or must be in receipt of income, salary, or wages of not less than 60*l.* per annum, of which 30*l.* must be received during the six months prior to the claim to vote being sent in.
New Zealand -	For European representation:—Any male 21 years of age (not a Maori), if resident one year in the Colony, and six months in an electoral district, is entitled to be placed on the register of voters. Freehold property, 25*l.* in value, held for six months before registration entitles an adult male to register, if not already registered, under the residential qualification. For a Maori to be placed on the register it is necessary he should be possessed of a 25*l.* freehold under Crown title, or be on a ratepayers' roll. For Maori representation:—Every Maori may vote for the district in which he resides without registration.

NOTE.—In most, if not all the Colonies, lunatics, paupers, and criminals are disqualified from voting. In Victoria the police have recently been admitted to the franchise, but it is believed this privilege is not accorded to them in the other Colonies.

Lower House; payment of members.

19. In Victoria and New South Wales each member of the Lower House is entitled to receive 300*l.* per annum in reimbursement of expenses in the discharge of his parliamentary duties. In South Australia each member receives 200*l.* per annum for his services. In New Zealand each member receives 100*l.* per session for his services; also, in consideration of necessary expenses incurred, 25*l.* per session if he lives within three miles, or 50*l.* if he lives beyond that distance from the Parliament buildings.

Parliamentary representation in various countries.

20. In proportion to population Victoria has a smaller number of representatives in the Lower House of Parliament than any other Australasian Colony, or than Greece or Servia, but a larger number than any other country. New South Wales comes next to Victoria, but is more largely represented than Greece or Servia. All the other Australasian Colonies are more largely represented than any other countries. By the following table, in which the countries are arranged according to the proportion of representatives they respectively have, the country least represented is shown to be the United States of America, and the next least is Brazil:—

Parliamentary Representation in Various Countries.

Country.	Number of Inhabitants.	Lower House of Parliament.	
		Number of Representatives.	Inhabitants to a Representative.
Tasmania	151,472	36	4,208
Queensland	406,658	72	5,648
South Australia	324,484	54	6,009
New Zealand	662,280	95	6,971
Greece	1,979,453	245	8,079
New South Wales	1,122,200	137	8,191
Servia	1,810,606	160	11,316
Victoria	1,118,028	95	11,768
Uruguay	622,250	53	11,929
Norway	1,806,900	114	15,850
Denmark	1,969,039	102	19,304
Chile	2,526,969	126	20,055
Switzerland	2,940,602	145	20,280
Canada	4,406,640	215	20,496
Sweden	4,717,189	222	21,248
Bavaria	5,284,778	159	33,237
Hungary	16,570,146	453	36,579
Roumania	5,376,000	145	37,075
Argentine Republic	3,435,286	86	39,945
Spain	17,226,254	431	39,968
Venezuela	2,121,988	52	40,807
Belgium	5,909,975	132	44,772
Mexico	10,447,974	227	46,026
Holland	4,172,971	86	48,523
Italy	28,459,628	508	56,022
United Kingdom	37,808,892	670	56,431
Columbia	3,878,600	66	58,766
Prussia	27,279,111	432	63,146
Austria	23,070,688	353	65,356
France	38,218,903	584	65,443
Brazil	14,002,335	125	112,019
United States	56,785,456	334	170,016

Municipal government.

21. Municipal or local government is almost universal throughout Victoria, about eighteen-nineteenths of its whole area being divided into urban or rural municipalities. The former are called cities, towns, and boroughs, and the latter shires. They are regulated under the Local Government Acts (28 Vict., No. 506, and 47 Vict., No. 786), each municipality being a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and capable of suing and of being sued, and of purchasing, holding, and alienating land. The cities, towns, and boroughs now number 59, and the shires 130. They have power to levy rates, and are also subsidised by the State. Their peculiar functions are to make, maintain, and control all streets, roads, bridges, ferries, culverts, watercourses, and jetties within their respective boundaries; also to regulate under proper bye-laws the markets, pounds, abattoirs, baths, charitable institutions, and the arrange-

ments for sewerage, lighting, water supply, prevention of fire, and carrying on of noxious trades.

Cities, towns, and boroughs.

22. A borough must not be of a greater area than nine square miles, and on being constituted must have a population of inhabitant householders of not less than 300. No point within its limits must be more than six miles distant from any other point. Any borough having a gross revenue of not less than 10,000*l.* may be declared by the Governor in Council a town, and any one having a gross revenue of not less than 20,000*l.* may be declared by the Governor in Council a city.

Shires.

23. Portions of country containing rateable property capable of yielding, upon a rate not exceeding 1*s.* in 1*l.* on the annual value thereof, a sum of 500*l.* may be proclaimed as shires.

Subdivision of districts.

24. The Governor in Council may divide any municipal district into any number of subdivisions not exceeding eight.

Municipal councillors.

25. The number of councillors in a municipality is fixed by the Governor in Council. It must by the statute be some multiple of three, and must not be less than six or more than 24. The number is usually nine. If the district is subdivided, the number of councillors is three for each subdivision. Male persons liable to be rated in respect of property of the rateable value of 20*l.* at least in any municipal district are qualified to hold the office of councillor. Being a contractor or the holder of any office of profit under the council, being an uncertificated or undischarged bankrupt or insolvent, or being convicted or attainted of felony, perjury, or any infamous crime, renders a person incapable of being or continuing to be a councillor. The election of councillors takes place annually. A third part of the councillors retire each year by rotation, but retiring councillors may be re-elected.

Chairman of council.

26. The councillors elect their own chairman, who, in the case of boroughs, is called the mayor; in the case of shires, the president. The chairman becomes a justice of the peace, by virtue of his position during the time he holds office and one year longer.

Municipal electors.

27. Every person (male or female) 21 years of age or upwards, liable to be rated in respect of property within a municipal district, is entitled to be enrolled as a voter, provided the rates on such property have been fully paid.

Plurality of votes.

28. Plurality of votes for the election of councillors is allowed upon the following scale:—

In Boroughs.

Properties rated under an annual value of 50*l.* - - - -	One vote.
Properties rated at an annual value of 50*l.* to 100*l.* - - -	Two votes.
Properties rated at an annual value of 100*l.* and over - - -	Three votes.

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In Shires.

Properties rated under an annual value of 25*l.* - - - - One vote.
Properties rated at an annual value of 25*l.* to 75*l.* - - - Two votes.
Properties rated at an annual value of 75*l.* and over - - - Three votes.

Ten pounds rating insufficient without occupation.

29. No person is allowed to vote for property of less than 10*l.* annual value unless he is the occupier thereof. In other cases either the owner or occupier, but not both, may vote.

Enrolment in subdivisions.

30. Where any municipal district is subdivided the ratepayers are enrolled for the subdivision in which the property in respect of which they are enrolled is situated.

Rateable property.

31. All land situated in a municipal district, except Crown land and land used for public purposes, is rateable property.

General and separate rates.

32. General rates are made and levied in each municipal district. They must not be more than 2*s.* 6*d.*, or less than 6*d.* in the pound of the net annual value of such property. Separate rates in addition, not exceeding 6*d.* in the pound, may, by consent of one-third of the ratepayers in a particular portion of the district, be levied upon the property within such portion, for the execution of works intended for its special benefit.

Governor of Victoria.

33. The present Governor of Victoria is the Right Honourable John Adrian Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G. Lord Hopetoun assumed office on the 28th November 1889.

Persons employed by Government.

34. With the view of showing the number of persons of different grades in the service of the Victorian Government and their emoluments, the Departments in the following table have been placed in classified arrangement, the number of persons employed and the total amount of salaries and wages paid annually being also shown. Persons temporarily employed, or any whose services are not wholly retained by the State, are not included

Persons Employed by the Victorian Government.—Numbers and Salaries or Wages.

(Exclusive of Persons temporarily or only partially employed.)

Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
Executive:—		£
His Excellency the Governor - - - - -	1	10,000
Ministers of the Crown - - - - - -	10	15,500
Executive Council, Officers of - - - - -	2	1,320
Total - - - -	13	26,820

Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
Legislature:—		
		£
Legislative Council, Officers of	16	6,028
Legislative Assembly, Officers of	28	9,963
Parliament Library	6	1,965
Parliament Refreshment Rooms and Gardens	4	541
"Victorian Hansard"	4	2,175
Total	58	20,672
Administrative:—		
Public Service Board	15	6,300
Premier's Office	9	2,471
Chief Secretary's Office	21	7,304
Government Shorthand Writer	6	2,092
Treasury	110	29,605
Audit Office	40	11,749
Agent-General	8	4,482
Total	209	64,003
Judicial and Legal:—		
Their Honours the Judges	6	18,500
Supreme Court	8	5,766
Law Officers of the Crown	21	10,914
Crown Solicitor	26	6,533
Prothonotary	7	2,413
Master in Equity and Lunacy	12	4,887
Registrar-General	51	9,460
Registrar of Titles	141	31,688
Registrar of Friendly Societies	1	400
Sheriffs	41	8,831
County Courts, Courts of Mines, Insolvency, General, and Petty Sessions.	10	9,878
Police Magistrates and Wardens	22	14,527
Clerks of Courts	111	21,952
Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons	7	1,606
Total	464	147,355
Police and Gaols:—		
Police	1,511	216,234
Penal Establishments and Gaols	245	41,324
Total	1,756	257,558

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Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
		£
Defences:—		
Defence Department—Civil Staff	34	6,568
Naval Forces—Permanent	238	28,818
Land Forces—Permanent	350	38,209
Total	622	73,595
Collection of Taxes:		
Customs	329	59,627
Distilleries and Excise	48	10,878
Land Tax	2	900
Total	379	71,405
Education, Science, Health, &c.:—		
Education Department—		
Officers, Inspectors, &c.	147	38,438
Teachers	4,600	543,812
Melbourne University	51	20,078
Public Library, Museums, and Gallery	59	10,142
Government Statist	19	4,283
Government Astronomer	11	3,589
Government Botanist	6	1,772
Public Health Department	18	4,829
Hospitals for the Insane	569	57,000
Public Parks, Gardens, and Reserve	6	972
Botanical and Domain Reserves	54	7,140
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	47	7,776
Inspector of Reformatory Schools'	3	1,120
Inebriate Asylum	15	600
Aborigines	7	1,308
Total	5,612	703,453
Commercial:—		
Victorian Railways—		
Administrative Officers	1,600	287,416
Employed in working lines open	9,573	1,039,984
Employed in construction	671	112,578
Melbourne Water Supply	91	17,131
Country Water Supply	58	12,530
Post and Telegraph Offices	2,710	308,484
Survey, Sale, and Management of Crown Lands	205	46,943
Marine Board	8	2,050
Ports and Harbours	108	17,152

Office.	Number of Persons.	Annual Payment.
		£
Mercantile Marine	6	1,124
Powder Magazine and Dynamite Hulk	8	1,224
Total	15,038	1,846,616
Industrial :—		
Public Works	183	43,453
Government Printer	194	33,638
Royal Mint	54	10,838
Inspector of Factories and Shops	8	2,141
Total	439	90,070
Agricultural, Pastoral, Mining, &c. :—		
Agriculture, Forests, and Industries	10	2,921
State Forests and Nurseries	26	4,628
Scab Prevention and Diseases of Stock	22	6,805
Mines Department	167	26,571
Fisheries Department	1	420
Total	226	35,345
Grand Total	24,816	3,336,892

Average number and cost of persons employed by Government.

35. According to this table the persons regularly employed in the service of the Government of Victoria number 24,816, and the amount paid to them annually is 3,336,892*l.*, or an average of 134*l.* per head. Comparing these figures with the estimated population at the end of 1889, viz., 1,118,028, it appears that, exclusive of persons casually or not wholly employed, one person in every 45 is in Government employment, at a cost of 2*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* per head of population. It will be observed, however, that over 15,000 persons, or about 60 per cent. of the whole, at a cost of about $1\frac{3}{4}$ million, or 55 per cent. of the whole, are engaged upon the construction and working of the railways or in other commercial departments of the Government, services which, in many other countries, are wholly or partially performed by private enterprise.

Payments in Victoria and New South Wales.

36. Whilst the Government of Victoria employs about 1,300 more persons than the Government of New South Wales, the latter pays 128,000*l.* more than the former in salaries and wages. The payment per person employed is 134*l.* in Victoria, and 147*l.*, or 13*l.* more, in New South Wales.

Salaries of Colonial Governors.

37. Both Victoria and Canada pay their Governor 10,000*l.* per annum, which is the highest amount paid by any British Colony. The Cape of Good Hope comes next with 9,000*l.*, then New South Wales with 7,000*l.* The lowest salaries paid to Governors are in Virgin Islands (300*l.*), and St. Helena, Montserrat, and

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Turks Island (500*l.* each). In the following statement the salaries of Governors or other rulers are arranged in order, the highest being placed first and the rest in succession :—

Salaries of Governors of British Colonies.

Colony.	Salary of Governor.	Colony.	Salary of Governor.
	£		£
Victoria - - -	10,000	Bahamas - - -	2,000
Canada (Governor-General)	10,000	Lagos - - -	1,950
Cape of Good Hope -	9,000	British Honduras - -	1,800
Straits Settlements - -	7,040	Nova Scotia - -	1,800
New South Wales - -	7,000	New Brunswick - -	1,800
Ceylon - - -	6,666	British Columbia - -	1,800
Jamaica - - -	6,000	British Bechuanaland -	1,800
Hong Kong - -	6,000	Labuan and British North Borneo.	1,800
Queensland - - -	5,000	British New Guinea -	1,700
South Australia - -	5,000	Basutoland - -	1,500
Tasmania - - -	5,000	Prince Edward Island -	1,400
New Zealand - -	5,000	N. W. Territories of Canada (Lieutenant-Governor).	1,400
Mauritius - - -	5,000	British Guiana (Lieutenant-Governor).	1,350
Gibraltar - - -	5,000	Zululand (Resident Commissioner).	1,200
Malta - - -	5,000	Falkland Islands - -	1,200
British Guiana - -	5,000	Gambia - - -	1,100
Trinidad - - -	5,000	Seychelles - - -	833
Natal - - -	4,000	St. Vincent - -	800
Cyprus - - -	4,000	St. Lucia - - -	800
Gold Coast - -	3,500	Dominica - - -	600
Western Australia - -	3,000	St. Christopher and Nevis -	600
Barbados - - -	3,000	Tobago - - -	600
Leeward Islands - -	3,000	Turks and Caicos Islands -	500
Bermudas - - -	2,946	Montserrat - - -	500
Newfoundland - -	2,500	St. Helena - - -	500
Windward Islands - -	2,500	Virgin Islands - -	300
Sierra Leone - -	2,500		
Fiji - - -	2,000		
Quebec - - -	2,000		
Ontario - - -	2,000		
Manitoba - - -	2,000		

Population, 1889.

38. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1889 was as follows :—

Estimated Population, 31st December 1889.

Males - - - -	593,798
Females - - - -	524,230
Total - -	1,118,028

Mode of computing population estimate.

39. This estimate shows an increase of 27,159, viz., 12,465 males and 14,694 females, upon that for the end of 1888, published last year. The figures have, as usual, been derived from the

numbers returned at the last census, with the addition of those expressing the excess of births over deaths and of arrivals over departures since the census was taken. The official records of births, deaths, and arrivals have been taken as they stand, but the record of departures being known to be defective an allowance has been made for those unrecorded, which are estimated to have amounted to 5,972, viz., 4,668 males and 1,304 females, in 1889, or to 47,229, viz., 37,560 males and 9,669 females, during the whole period since the census was taken. These numbers have accordingly been deducted from the totals. Had no such deductions been made the apparent population at the end of 1889 would have been 1,165,257, viz., 631,358 males and 533,899 females.

Municipal estimate of population.

40. A partial check upon the periodical estimates of population is afforded by means of returns obtained from the municipal authorities, who at the time of making their valuations ought to ascertain the number of persons living upon each property rated. This is not always done correctly; and, besides, in some municipalities the properties are not visited each year for the purpose of rating, in which case the numbers are not counted, but estimates, more or less wide of the truth, are made by the municipal authorities. The aggregate population obtained by means of the municipal returns is thus not so accurate as it might be were due care exercised in every municipality. The sum of the returns for 1889 was 1,096,450,* which, with an allowance to bring it on to the end of the year, and for districts not situated within the limits of any municipality, would give a total of 1,109,350, or 55,907 less than the apparent population,† but only 8,678 less than the reduced estimate adopted. It may be remarked that, when the census of 1881 was taken, the population according to the municipal estimate was found to differ by several thousands from the number then returned, although the difference was not nearly so great as that shown by the apparent population brought on throughout the 10 years which had intervened between it and the previous census, which, it will be remembered, was found to exceed the truth by 67,000.

Mean population, 1889.

41. Supposing the apparent population had been correct, the mean or average population during 1889 would have been 1,148,690, viz., 525,900 males and 622,790 females; but, calculating upon the basis of the reduced estimate, the mean population of the year may be set down as follows:—

Estimated Mean Population, 1889.

Males - - - -	587,550
Females - - - -	516,750
Total - -	1,104,300

* The returns are usually made up to about the middle of August.
† Or that obtained from the records without allowance for defective returns.

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Increase of population, 1889.

42. According to the records of births and deaths, and of immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1889 was 33,131, viz., 17,133 males and 15,998 females. Of this increase, 16,967, consisting of 7,649 males and 9,318 females, resulted from excess of births over deaths; and the remainder, viz., 16,164, consisting of 9,484 males and 6,680 females, was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

Population of Australasian Colonies.

43. The following table shows the estimated population of each Australasian Colony at the end of 1888 and 1889, and the increase of each during the 12 months ended with the latter:—

Estimated Population of Australasian Colonies, 1888 *and* 1889.

Colony.	Estimated Population at end of		Increase.
	1888.	1889.	
Victoria - - - -	1,090,869	1,118,028	27,159
New South Wales - -	1,085,740	1,122,200	36,460
Queensland - - -	387,463	406,658	19,195
South Australia - - -	318,308	324,484	6,176
Western Australia - -	42,137	43,698	1,561
Total - -	2,924,517	3,015,068	90,551
Tasmania - - -	146,149	151,472	5,323
New Zealand - - -	607,380	620,279	12,899
Grand Total -	3,678,046	3,786,819	108,773

NOTE.—The *apparent* population of Victoria was 1,132,126 at the end of 1888, and 1,165,257 at the end of 1889; that of New South Wales was 1,127,245 and 1,169,924 at the end of the same two years. The *apparent* increase of population in 1889 was 33,131 in the case of Victoria, and 42,679 in the case of New South Wales. The population in this table is exclusive of aborigines, except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.

Colonies which have amended their population estimates.

44. Both Victoria and New South Wales have reduced their estimates of population to allow for unrecorded departures which have taken place since the census of 1881 was taken, the former by 47,229 and the latter by 44,699. Moreover, Queensland and New Zealand took censuses in 1886, which led to a reduction on previous estimates of 11,427 persons in the case of the former, and 7,194 in that of the latter. It appears, however, that these two Colonies have not reduced their population estimates since 1886, whilst the other three Colonies have probably not done so since 1881, and as the record of persons departing is more or less incomplete in all of them, there is little doubt that the figures given, especially in the case of the last three Colonies, overstate the truth.

45. The subjoined figures show the estimated per-centage of increase of the population of each Colony during the year 1889, the Colonies being arranged in order according to the rate of increase in each :— Order of Colonies in respect to increase of population.

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportionate Increase of Population, 1889.

	Per Cent.
1. Queensland	4·95
2. Western Australia	3·70
3. Tasmania	3·64
4. New South Wales	3·36
5. Victoria	2·49
6. New Zealand	2·12
7. South Australia	1·94

46. By the totals of the last table it may be ascertained that in 1889 the population of Continental Australia increased by 3·10 per cent., and the population of Continental and Insular Australasia combined increased by 2·96 per cent. Increase in Australia and Australasia, 1889.

47. The populations of the Australasian Colonies in 1881,* at the two previous decennial census periods, also the estimated population in 1889, are shown in the following table :— Population of Australasian Colonies, 1861 to 1889.

Population of Australasian Colonies, 1861, 1871, 1881, *and* 1889.†

Colony.	Population at the end of First Quarter of			Estimated Population, 31st December 1889.
	1861.	1871.	1881.	
Victoria	540,322	731,528	862,346	1,118,028
New South Wales	350,860	503,981	751,468	1,122,200
Queensland	30,059	117,960‡	213,525	406,658
South Australia	126,830	185,626	279,865	324,484
Western Australia	15,100‡	25,270‡	29,708	43,698
Total Australia	1,063,171	1,564,365	2,136,912	3,015,068
Tasmania	89,977	101,020‡	115,705	151,472
New Zealand	84,536‡	257,810‡	489,933	620,279
Total Australasia	1,237,684	1,923,195	2,742,550	3,786,819

* Including enumerated aborigines, the population of the Australian continent at the census of 1881 was 2,166,189, and the population of that continent, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, was 2,815,924.

† Exclusive of aborigines, except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.

‡ In these cases, where the census was not taken near the end of the first quarter, the figures have been estimated on the basis of the nearest census.

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Increase at each period.

48. From this table it appears that, during the 8¾ years which have elapsed since the census of 1881, the popoulation of the Australasian Colonies, as a whole, is estimated to have increased by about 1,040,000, as compared with not quite 820,000 during the 10 years 1871 to 1881, and with less than 700,000 during the 10 years 1861 to 1871. In the last 8¾ years the increase of New South Wales was about 370,000, or over a third of the whole; Victoria 250,000, or nearly a fourth; Queensland 190,000, or nearly a fifth; and New Zealand 130,000, or about an eighth.

Annual rates of increase, 1861 to 1889.

49. The following table shows the annual rate of increase of the population of each Colony between 1881 and 1889, and in the two previous decennial periods:—

Annual Increase of Population, 1861 *to* 1889.

Colony.	Annual Rate of Increase, per Cent., between		
	1861 and 1871.	1871 and 1881.	1881 and 1889. (Estimated.)
Victoria - - - -	3·07	1·65	3·01
New South Wales - -	3·69	4·08	4·69
Queensland - - -	14·65	6·11	7·64
South Australia - - -	3·88	4·19	1·70
Western Australia - -	5·28	1·63	4·51
Total Australia -	3·94	3·17	4·01
Tasmania - - -	1·14	1·37	3·12
New Zealand - - -	11·80	6·63	2·73
Total Australasia -	4·51	3·61	3·76

Rate of increase since 1881.

50. Except in very small communities, an annual increase to the population of 3 per cent. may be regarded as a high rate, and even that could not under ordinary conditions be maintained except by the aid of immigration. For it rarely happens that over a series of years the rate of natural increase (*i.e.*, by excess of births over deaths) exceeds 2 per cent. Indeed, in almost every country it is below 1½ per cent.; although exceptional instances occur, as in the case of some of the Australasian Colonies, where the rates have over a series of years considerably exceeded even 2 per cent., notably New Zealand, where the rate has averaged as high as 2·8 per cent. Such high rates, however, are unusual, and are generally due to the presence of an abnormally large proportion of the population being at the reproductive ages, consequent

on a considerable influx of adult immigrants. A glance at the last table will show that, assuming the estimates for 1889 to be correct, which can only be verified when a census is taken, an increase of over 3 per cent. per annum had taken place in the populations of all the Colonies except South Australia and New Zealand. Whilst the annual rates of increase in Victoria and Tasmania only slightly exceeded that proportion, those in New South Wales and Western Australia were over 4½ per cent., and the rate of increase in Queensland was as high as 7⅔ per cent. The last-named Colony, however, has little more than a third of the population of either Victoria or New South Wales.

Rates of increase at three periods compared.

51. On comparing the rates of increase at the three periods, it will be observed that the population of Victoria apparently increased nearly twice as fast at the last as at the second period, but not quite so fast as at the first period; also that the population of New South Wales has apparently increased much faster at the last than at either of the former periods. Queensland and New Zealand appear to have had by far the highest rates of increase at the first and second periods, but, whilst Queensland still appears to maintain its high position, New Zealand at the last period is shown to have had the lowest rate of any Colony except South Australia.

Probable Australasian populations, 1891.

52. In view of the increases shown in the table it may fairly be estimated that when the next simultaneous census of the Colonies is taken, viz., in 1891, the inhabitants of the Australian continent will be found to number at least 3,150,000, and those of that continent with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand will be found to number close upon 4,000,000.

Probable rate of increase, 1881–1891.

53. In the 10 years ended with the date of the census of 1881, the rate of increase at the population of the Australian continent was about 36 per cent., and of the continent, combined with Tasmania and New Zealand, about 42 per cent. Judging from the increase which is estimated to have taken place in the 8¾ years intervening between the date of the census and the end of 1889, it appears probable that both these increases, especially the first-named, will be much exceeded in the 10 years ending with the next census (1891), and that the rate of increase of the population of Continental Australia will be found to have been about 47 per cent., and that of Continental and Insular Australasia combined about 44 per cent.

Time Victorian population will double.

54. Between the censuses of 1871 and 1881 the increase of the Victorian population was only 18 per cent. At this rate the population of this Colony will double itself in 42 years. There is reason to believe, however, that since the last census the population has been increasing at a much faster rate, and that it may be expected to double itself in a considerably shorter period.

Urban and rural population.

55. In the following table the area of Victoria is divided into three districts, the first being the metropolitan (Greater Melbourne), extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city; the second, viz., the extra-metropolitan towns,

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including the total space embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former) outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, viz., the extra-urban or rural, including the remaining portions of the Colony. In each of these districts the population is shown at the end of 1889, as well as the average population during that year; also the ratio of the population of each district to that of the whole Colony, and the number of persons to the square mile.

Urban and Rural Population, 1889.

Districts.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Population at end of 1889.			Mean Population, 1889.
		Total.	Proportions per Cent.	Persons to the Square Mile.	
Towns { Metropolitan	256	458,470	41·01	1,791	445,220
Towns { Extra Metropolitan -	376	196,110	17·54	522	196,400
Total Urban -	632	654,580	58·55	1,036	641,620
Extra Urban or Rural -	87,252	463,448	41·45	5·3	462,680
Total of Victoria -	87,884	1,118,028	100·00	12·7	1,104,300

Increasing proportion of metropolitan population.

56. In 1889 the population of the metropolis was equal to over two-fifths of that of the whole Colony. This proportion is fast increasing, as will be observed by the following figures:—

Proportion of Population of Greater Melbourne to Total Population of Victoria.

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
1861 -	25·89	1881 -	32·81
1871 -	28·87	1889 -	41·01

Metropolitan populations of Australasian Colonies, 1881.

57. The following is a statement of the population of the metropolis or principal city of each of the Australasian Colonies according to the census of 1881. The figures in all cases denote

the number of inhabitants living in the suburbs, as well as those resident within the corporate limits:—

Metropolitan Populations of the Australasian Colonies, 1881.

Name of City.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Melbourne - - -	139,006	143,941	282,947
Sydney - - - -	113,928	110,283	224,211
Adelaide - - -	51,716	52,148	103,864
Brisbane - - -	15,296	15,813	31,109
Hobart - - -	13,162	14,086	27,248
Wellington - - -	10,226	10,337	20,563
Perth - - - -	2,981	2,841	5,822

Proportions of the sexes in Australasian capitals.

58. In Hobart, Melbourne, Brisbane, Wellington, and Adelaide, when the census of 1881 was taken, females were more numerous than males, but in the other chief cities named the latter were slightly in excess. The following are the proportions of the sexes according to the returns of that census:—

Proportions of the Sexes in Capitals of Australasian Colonies, 1881.

	Females per 100 Males.
Hobart - - - - -	107·02
Melbourne - - - -	103·55
Brisbane - - - -	103·38
Wellington - - - -	101·09
Adelaide - - - -	100·84
Sydney - - - - -	96·80
Perth - - - - -	95·30

Metropolitan populations, 1881 and 1889.

59. Estimates, without distinction of sexes, of the population of all these cities have been made for the middle of the year 1889, and in the followng table the figures representing these are placed side by side with the figures derived from the returns of the census of 1881; the numerical and centesimal increases in the eight and a quarter years since the census was taken being also shown.

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Metropolitan Population of the Australian Colonies, 1881 *and* 1889.

Name of City.	Population.		Increase in 8¼ Years.	
	1881 (End of First Quarter enumerated).	1889 (Middle of the Year, estimated).	Numerical.	Centesimal.
Melbourne - -	282,947	445,220	162,273	57·35
Sydney - - -	224,211	374,207	149,996	66·90
Adelaide - - -	103,864	120,600	16,736	16·11
Brisbane - -	31,109	91,300	60,191	193·48
Hobart - - -	27,248	35,043	7,795	28·61
Wellington - -	20,563	32,050	11,487	55·86
Perth - - -	5,822	9,000	3,178	54·59

Increases of metropolitan populations compared.

60. According to the figures the numerical increase of the Melbourne population has been greater than that of any of the other metropolitan cities of Australasia. In point of centesimal increase, Brisbane and Sydney appear to have outstripped Melbourne, but it is doubtful whether the boundaries within which the population was calculated as at the middle of 1889 do not extend further than those within which that population was made up when the returns of the census of 1881 were compiled

Proportions of metropolitan to total populations.

61. When the census of 1881 was taken, the metropolitan population formed a larger proportion of the total population in South Australia than it did in any other of the Australasian Colonies; in the middle of 1889, however, that position was occupied by Melbourne, Adelaide having fallen to the second place. The following were the proportions in each Colony at that time:—

Proportion of Metropolitan to Total Populations in Australasian Colonies, 1889.

	Per Cent.
Melbourne - - - -	40·32
Adelaide - - - -	37·52
Sydney - - - -	33·90
Hobart - - - -	23·55
Brisbane - - - -	22·99
Perth - - - -	20·97
Wellington - - -	5·22

Population of chief extra-metropolitan towns.

62. Next to the municipalities embraced under the head of Greater Melbourne, the most important towns in Victoria are—Ballarat, comprising three municipalities; Sandhurst, comprising two; Geelong, comprising three; and Castlemaine, comprising two municipalities. The estimated populations of these with their immediate suburbs, in 1889, were as follow:—

Population of Four Extra-Metropolitan Towns, 1889.

Town.	Population.
Ballarat - - - - -	42,547
Sandhurst - - - -	36,630
Geelong - - - -	21,380
Castlemaine - - - -	9,220

Order of Colonies in respect to population and sex.

63. Victoria is by far the most densely populated Colony of the group; but in South Australia there exists a nearer approach to equality in the numbers of the sexes than in Victoria. The following is the order in which the Colonies stand in respect of these two matters:—

Order of Colonies in reference to Density of Population, 1889.

1. Victoria.
2. New Zealand.
3. Tasmania.
4. New South Wales.
5. Queensland.
6. South Australia.
7. Western Australia.

Order of Colonies in reference to Equality of Sexes, 1889.

1. South Australia.
2. Victoria.
3. Tasmania.
4. New Zealand.
5. New South Wales.
6. Western Australia.
7. Queensland.

Population of Australia and Australasia.

64. At the end of 1889 there were on the continent of Australia over three million inhabitants; and in Australasia, including not only the continental Colonies, but also Tasmania and New Zealand, there were close on three million seven hundred and eighty-seven thousand. The estimated numbers, as well as the propor-

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tions of the sexes and the density of population in each of the nine years ended with 1889, were as follow :—

Population of Australasia, 1881 *to* 1889.

—	Year.	Estimated Population on the 31st December.			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Continent of Australia - -	1881	1,191,873	1,010,340	2,202,213	84·77	·748
	1882	1,234,562	1,049,023	2,283,585	84·97	·775
	1883	1,303,554	1,099,623	2,403,177	84·36	·816
	1884	1,356,090	1,141,742	2,497,832	84·19	·848
	1885	1,409,851	1,183,306	2,593,157	83·93	·881
	1886	1,469,843	1,230,122	2,699,965	83·70	·917
	1887	1,528,593	1,277,319	2,805,912	83·56	·953
	1888*	1,594,352	1,330,165	2,924,517	83·43	·993
	1889	1,640,212	1,374,856	3,015,068	83·82	1·024
Continent of Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand - -	1881	1,530,093	1,291,953	2,822,046	84·44	·918
	1882	1,582,996	1,340,775	2,923,771	84·70	·951
	1883	1,665,191	1,405,083	3,070,274	84·39	·999
	1884	1,726,604	1,458,879	3,185,483	84·50	1·036
	1885	1,791,664	1,510,510	3,302,174	84·30	1·074
	1886	1,860,812	1,565,750	3,426,562	84·14	1·114
	1887	1,929,396	1,622,355	3,551,751	84·09	1·155
	1888*	1,997,329	1,680,717	3,678,046	84·15	1·196
	1889	2,052,794	1,734,025	3,786,819	84·47	1·231

Sexes diverging from equality.

65. According to the experience of the nine years named, the proportionate excess of males over females shows a tendency to increase rather than to diminish on the Australian continent, but this is not the case in Australasia, as a whole.

Australasia compared with other British possessions.

66. The Australasian Colonies occupy less than three-eighths, and Victoria nearly a ninetieth, of the whole area of the British Dominions. The Australasian Colonies contain nearly a seventieth, and Victoria contains nearly a two hundred and fortieth, of the population of the whole British Empire. The area of Australasia is somewhat smaller than that of Canada, which is the largest British possession; and the population of Canada exceeds that of Australasia by not quite a million and a quarter. The population of Victoria is exceeded by that of no British dependency except India, Canada, Burmah, Ceylon, the Cape of Good Hope, and the Gold Coast.

Area and population of the world.

67. The following is an estimate of the area and population of the world and its various continents. The scanty population of Australasia and Polynesia will be at once noticed. It will also

* Figures for 1888 revised and altered since last publication.

be observed that by far the greater proportion, or about five-ninths, of the total population of the earth is distributed throughout Asia, but that the density of population there is little more than half that of Europe:—

The World.—Area and Population.

Continents.	Area in English Square Miles.	Estimated Population.	Persons to the Square Mile.
Europe - - -	3,718,340	349,873,000	94·2
Asia - - - -	17,150,210	830,599,000	48·4
Africa - - -	11,514,770	203,321,000	17·7
America - - -	15,311,400	121,335,000	7·9
Australasia and Polynesia -	3,455,760	5,071,000	1·47
Polarland - - -	1,728,640	82,000	·05
Total - -	52,874,120	1,510,281,000	28·6

Immigration and emigration, 1888.

68. The arrivals and departures by sea recorded during 1889, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow:—

Immigration and Emigration, 1889.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	56,163	28,419	84,582
Departures by sea - - -	46,679	21,739	68,418
Excess of arrivals - -	9,484	6,680	16,164

Gain by immigration, 1888 and 1889 compared.

69. Whilst the records of arrivals show smaller numbers for 1889 than for 1888 by 17,450, the records of departures show larger numbers by 8,189; the apparent net gain by excess of immigration over emigration was therefore less in the year under review than the previous one by 25,639. In reference to this large falling off in the net immigration it should be explained that the immigration in 1888 was much swelled by the large number of persons who were attracted by the opening of the Melbourne International Exhibition in that year, whilst the emigration in 1889 was swelled by these persons who left the Colony about the time of the closing of the Exhibition in that year.

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Finance account, 1888–9.

70. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Victoria in the financial year ended on the 30th June 1889; the excess of the former over the latter; the credit balance brought forward from 1887–8, and that carried forward to 1889–90:—

Finance Account of Victoria, 1888–9.*

	£	s.	d.
Receipts - - -	8,675,989	17	7
Expenditure - - -	7,919,902	0	1
Receipts in excess of expenditure - - -	756,087	17	6
Credit balance from 1887–8 -	948,758	4	7
Credit balance carried forward to 1889–90 - - -	1,704,846	2	1

Large surplus of revenue, 1888–9.

71. It is thus shown that during the financial year under review there was a surplus of revenue amounting to 756,088*l.*, which being added to a credit balance of 948,758*l.* brought forward from 1887–8, a total is arrived at of 1,704,846*l.* to be carried forward to 1889–90. This exceeds by close on 1,100,000*l.* the largest credit balance ever previously remaining in Victoria at the end of any financial year.

Changes in sources of revenue.

72. During the year 1888–9 no changes were made affecting the incidence of taxation, or tending to increase or diminish the amounts derived from other sources of revenue, excepting the railway income. As the railways were extended by an average length of 197 miles during the year, the extra revenue derivable therefrom, allowing 1,000*l.* per mile, should have been 197,000*l.* Moreover, an unforeseen increase of 84,600*l.*, as compared with 1887–8, occurred in the amount received from duties on estates of deceased persons—a source of income which is naturally subject to fluctuations. Thus, in consequence of the extension of railways and accidental circumstances, the receipts of 1888–9, as compared with those of the previous 12 months, show an increase of 281,600*l.*

Revenue, 1887–8 and 1888–9 compared.

73. The total revenue raised in 1888–9 was about 1,070,000*l.* in excess of that in the previous year; but by making allowances

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly in July 1890 by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1889–90 was 8,511,105*l.*, and the expenditure was 9,750,204*l.*, the latter thus exceeding the former by 1,239,099*l.*, which amount being deducted from the balance at the beginning of the financial year leaves a credit balance of 465,747*l.* to be carried forward.

for receipts from sources not common to both years, as shown in the last paragraph, the excess is reduced to 787,000*l.*, thus :—

Comparative Revenues, 1887–8 *and* 1888–9.

	1887–8.	1888–9.
	£	£
Revenue - - - - - -	7,607,598	8,675,990
Deduct amounts from sources not common to both years - - - -	—	281,600
Comparative amounts - - -	7,607,598	8,394,390

Revenue, 1888–9 and previous year.

74. The revenue of 1888–9 was by far the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1887–8, which was the year in which the largest revenue had previously been realised, by 1,070,000*l.*, as already stated, and exceeded the revenue of 1886–7, which was the year in which the next highest revenue had been raised, by over 1,940,000*l.* In the 10 years ended with the year under review the revenue increased from 4,600,000*l.* to 8,700,000*l.*, or by 89 per cent., the population during the same period having increased by only about 29 per cent.

Expenditure, 1888–9 and former years.

75. The expenditure of 1888–9 was also much above that of any previous year, it being larger than in 1887–8, the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred, by over 630,000*l.* larger than in 1886–7, which came next by about 1,360,000*l.* Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–3 it was usually nearly up to or slightly over three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–4 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions, and from 1884–5 to 1888–9 it increased from six to close on eight millions sterling.

Revenue and expenditure per head, 1851 to 1888–9.

76. The revenue and expenditure per head for each year from that of separation from New South Wales to 1888–9 will be found in the following table :—

Revenue and Expenditure per Head, 1851 *to* 1888–9.

Year.	Average Population of each Financial Year.	Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1851 - -	86,825	4 10 5	4 14 8
1852 - -	132,905	12 5 11	7 7 4
1853 - -	195,378	16 11 2	16 9 3
1854 - -	267,371	11 11 0	15 13 1
1855 - -	338,315	8 1 4	7 14 6

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Year.	Average Population of each Financial Year.	Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1856 - -	380,942	7 16 1	7 0 1
1857 - -	430,347	7 14 8	6 17 11
1858 - -	483,827	6 2 11	6 7 10
1859 - -	517,390	6 6 1	6 11 3
1860 - -	534,055	5 15 5	6 4 2
1861 - -	539,824	5 9 4	5 14 6
1862 - -	548,080	5 19 3	5 10 11
1863 - -	562,960	4 18 6	5 2 5
1864 - -	586,450	5 0 9	4 19 11
1865 - -	611,218	5 0 8	4 17 7
1866 - -	629,038	4 17 11	5 2 5
1867 - -	644,276	4 19 10	5 0 7
1868 - -	663,092	4 17 5	4 16 2
1869 - -	687,202	4 18 6	4 13 10
1870 - -	713,195	4 11 5	4 16 2
1871 (six months)	731,528	2 6 3	2 8 0
1871–2 - -	747,412	4 19 11	4 17 11
1872–3 - -	758,984	4 16 0	4 12 4
1873–4 - -	772,039	5 6 5	5 8 3
1874–5 - -	783,274	5 8 2	5 10 3
1875–6 - -	791,399	5 9 4	5 15 7
1876–7 - -	801,717	5 17 10	5 8 9
1877–8 - -	815,494	5 10 6	5 13 8
1878–9 - -	827,439	5 11 8	5 16 10
1879–80 - -	840,620	5 9 11	5 16 0
1880–81 - -	860,067	6 0 7	5 18 10
1881–2 - -	880,218	6 7 1	5 16 11
1882–3 - -	900,222	6 4 8	6 5 7
1883–4 - -	921,743	6 8 9	6 4 0
1884–5 - -	946,045	6 13 0	6 9 10
1885–6 - -	971,145	6 13 6	6 14 2
1886–7 - -	1,003,100	6 14 3	6 10 10
1887–8 - -	1,038,130	7 6 7	7 0 5
1888–9 - -	1,085,630	7 19 10	7 5 11

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1888-9 and former years.

77. The revenue per head in 1888–9 was larger by 13*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure per head larger by 5*s.* 6*d.*, than in the previous year. Both were larger than in any year since 1855. It will be observed that, in proportion to population, both revenue and expenditure declined pretty steadily year by year from 1862 to 1872–3, but ever since the latter a gradual increase has taken place, which, with slight fluctuations, has been maintained up to the present time.

Heads of revenue, 1887–8 and 1888–9.

78. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz.:—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Post and Telegraphs, and other sources. In 1888–9, 3,750,000*l.*, or 43½ per cent., was derived from taxation; 616,000*l.*, or 7 per cent., from Crown lands; 3,909,000*l.*, or 45 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government, viz.:—Public Works and Post and Telegraphs, to which the State Railways contributed as much as 3,105,000*l.*, or 36 per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to

401,000*l.*, or about 4½ per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the land revenue, amounting to 616,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 495,000*l.*—being equal to 5¾ per cent. of the total revenue—was derived from the sale of public land, which, being a receipt arising from the realisation of one of the most valuable assets of the country, is obviously not a permanent source of income. Portion of this amount is properly treated as capital, for on reference to the statement of expenditure it will be seen that a sum of nearly 121,000*l.* was paid during the year towards the construction of railways as directed by the Land Act, 1884, which provides that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the Railway Construction Account. In 1888–9, however, the amount so paid represented barely one-fifth of the total proceeds from land sales, the great bulk of land alienated being disposed of otherwise than at auction. The following is a statement of the amounts received under various heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head:—

Heads of Revenue, 1887–8 *and* 1888–9.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1887-8.	1888-9.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,353,050	2,879,830	526,780	—
Excise	123,369	146,555	18,186	—
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	34,327	45,884	11,557	—
Licences (business)	21,002	23,904	2,902	—
Duties on estates of deceased persons	151,861	236,449	84,588	—
Duties on bank notes	27,879	34,023	6,144	—
Stamp duty	230,000	260,000	30,000	—
Land tax	124,515	123,025	—	1,490
Total	3,071,003	3,749,670	678,667	—
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	549,149	494,733	—	54,416
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	106,817	119,778	12,961	—
Penalties under Land Acts	301	1,517	1,216	—
Total	656,267	616,028	—	40,239
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	2,741,488	3,104,907	363,419	—
Water supply	235,743	245,734	9,991	—
Other public works	4,764	5,805	1,041	—
Total	2,981,995	3,356,446	374,451	—

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Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received. 1887-8	Amounts Received. 1888-9.	Increase.	Decrease.
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.	£	£	£	£
Postal receipts, &c.	354,796	402,834	48,038	—
Telegraph receipts, &c.	130,737	150,043	19,306	—
Total	485,533	552,877	67,344	—
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges	10,877	10,051	—	826
„ subsidy returned	3,874	3,642	—	232
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamp)	164,721	174,998	10,277	—
Interest on public account	136,811	107,888	—	28,923
Rents (other than Crown lands)	2,908	3,224	316	—
Reimbursements in aid	69,041	67,130	—	1,911
Miscellaneous receipts	25,068	34,036	8,968	—
Total	412,800	400,969	—	11,831
Grand Total	7,607,598	8,675,990	1,068,392	—

Heads of expenditure, 1887-8 and 1888-9.

79. Of the total expenditure of Victoria in 1888–9, 1,302,000*l.*, or 16½ per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government, maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attacks; 774,000*l.*, or 10 per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 284,000*l.*, or nearly 4 per cent., was expended on public charities or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 101,000*l.*, or nearly 1¼ per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, being slightly less than the gross annual rental therefrom during the same financial year; as much as 3,837,000*l.*, or 48 per cent., was absorbed in working the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 1,875,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, 619,000*l.* on post and telegraphs, and 1,343,000*l.* in interest upon loans raised for their construction; 116,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the construction of other public works; 87,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue from Customs duties and Excise, whilst 35,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and 192,000*l.*, or 2½ per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 261,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary annual expenditure for the year; but besides this an amount of 930,000*l.*, or 11½ per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on productive and unproductive works of a permanent character, viz., 121,000*l.* on railways, and 809,000*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies (341,000*l.*). These amounts might be considered as a set-off against the proceeds of land sales before referred to, which they even exceeded by 435,000*l.* The following is a classification of

the expenditure under 9 divisions and 26 subsidiary heads, during the years 1887–8 and 1888–9, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1887–8 *and* 1888–9.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1887-8.	1888-9.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list	45,361	40,564	—	4,797
Legislature	58,631	73,216	14,585	—
Civil establishment	132,983	146,617	13,634	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	88,484	96,610	8,126	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	43,329	53,916	10,587	—
Total	368,788	410,923	42,135	—
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.				
Judicial and legal	211,111	217,180	6,069	—
Police	240,840	261,329	20,489	—
Gaols and penal establishments	65,385	66,163	778	—
Defences—Naval and Military	322,119	346,623	24,504	—
Total	839,455	891,295	51,840	—
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.				
Public instruction, science, &c.	722,102	774,449	52,347	—
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	278,879	283,986	5,107	—
Total	1,000,981	1,058,435	57,454	—
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	106,408	100,573	—	5,835
Agriculture, &c.	69,947	73,229	3,282	—
Mining	117,837	119,139	1,302	—
Total	294,192	292,941	—	1,251
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses	1,574,786	1,803,124	228,338	—
„ Construction account	118,090	120,873	2,783	—
Water supply	46,966	71,989	25,023	—
Other public works	718,427	808,803	90,376	—
Total	2,458,269	2,804,789	346,520	—
Post and telegraphs	643,113	619,070	—	24,043
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways	1,070,950	1,126,765	55,815	—
„ „ Water supply	199,718	216,195	16,477	—
„ „ Other works	114,453	116,282	1,829	—
Total	1,385,121	1,459,242	74,121	—

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Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended. 1887-8.	Amounts Expended. 1888-9.	Increase.	Decrease.
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.	£	£	£	£
Customs	83,975	87,412	3,437	—
Harbours and lights	32,460	34,595	2,135	—
Total	116,435	122,007	5,572	—
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines	10,982	10,949	—	33
Miscellaneous services	149,815	230,251	80,436	—
Total	180,797	261,200	80,403	—
Grand Total	7,287,151	7,919,902	632,751	—

Expenditure of loans, &c.

80. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1883–4 and during each subsequent year. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure by exhibiting those items which having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1889.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended. Prior to 1883-4.	1883-4.	1884-5.	1885-6.	1886-7.	1887-8.	1888-9.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	18,670,121	1,191,132	901,577	1,408,662	1,711,160	1,774,721	3,083,211	28,740,584
Water supply	3,735,974	304,585	172,465	235,485	373,994	462,562	484,068	5,769,133
Law courts and Parliament Houses	390,761	45,505	568	12,153	32,770	44,954	37,563	564,274
Public offices	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings	861,577	36,923	69,995	45,438	49,284	54,308	59,970	1,177,495
Yarra bridge	1,800	8,382	3,663	14,205	42,561	32,627	18,207	121,445
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	400	13,706	46,077	20,976	47,856	53,344	54,279	236,638
Total	24,263,031	1,600,233	1,194,345	1,736,919	2,257,625	2,422,516	3,737,298	37,211,967

Heads of revenue of Australasian Colonies.

81. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts received, under various heads of revenue, in the respective Australasian Colonies during the most recent year for which the

particulars are available. The figures have all been derived from official sources. VICTORIA.

Heads of Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria, 1888-9.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation :—							
Customs, &c.	2,879,830	1,883,058	1,344,504	533,665	159,059	297,912	1,390,717
Other taxes	869,840	798,825	233,167	205,688	20,885	107,895	640,941
Total	3,749,670	2,681,883	1,577,671	739,353	179,944	405,807	2,031,658
Crown lands	616,028	2,268,253	638,472	319,510	81,348	76,859	297,856
Railways	3,104,907	2,497,930	769,275	956,848	37,302	60,237	1,019,791
Post and telegraphs	402,834	562,909	228,701	214,600	22,701	50,648	318,558
Other sources	802,551	875,385	248,978	264,245	35,708	46,517	441,952
Total	8,675,990	8,886,360	3,463,097	2,494,556	357,003	640,068	4,109,815
	Proportions per cent.						
Taxation :—							
Customs, &c.	33·20	21·19	38·83	21·39	44·55	46·54	33·84
Other taxes	10·03	8·99	6·73	8·25	5·85	16·86	15·59
Total	43·23	30·18	45·56	29·64	50·40	63·40	49·43
Crown lands	7·10	25·53	18·44	12·81	22·79	12·01	7·25
Railways	35·79	28·11	22·21	38·36	10·45	9·41	24·81
Post and telegraphs	4·64	6·33	6·60	8·60	6·36	7·91	7·75
Other sources	9·24	9·85	7·19	10·59	10·00	7·27	10·76
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

NOTE.—The figures of revenue and expenditure for Victoria are for the 12 months ended 30th June 1889, but those for the other Colonies are for the calendar year 1888. Refunds of revenue, drawbacks, and such similar entries, are rigidly excluded from the accounts of revenue and expenditure of Victoria and New Zealand, but are included in those of New South Wales and Queensland; also, it is believed, in those of some of the other Colonies.

Proportion of revenue from different sources.

82. It will be observed that the proportion of revenue raised by taxation—chiefly derived from Customs duties—varied from about 30 per cent. in South Australia and New South Wales to 63 per cent. in Tasmania, the proportion in Victoria being 43 per cent., or lower than in any of the other Colonies except New South Wales and South Australia. The revenue from railways also formed a very large proportion of the total revenue of all the Colonies, varying from a tenth in Western Australia and Tasmania to more than a third of the whole in Victoria and South Australia. The Crown lands revenue varied in the different Colonies from 7 to 26 per cent. of the whole, the latter proportion prevailing in New South Wales, and that from post and telegraphs from less than 5 to over 8½ per cent.

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Heads of revenue in Victoria and New South Wales compared.

83. It will be remarked that the land revenue was nearly four times as large in New South Wales as in Victoria, which item alone much more than accounts for the larger total revenue of the former Colony. Indeed, if the land revenue be deducted from the total revenues of the two Colonies, the revenue of Victoria, notwithstanding the cross entries in the New South Wales returns already alluded to, would exceed the revenue of that Colony by 1,442,000*l.*, the respective amounts for 1888 being 8,060,000*l.* and 6,618,000*l.* It also appears that the railway revenue of Victoria exceeded that of New South Wales by over 600,000*l.*; in the former Colony it forms much more than one-third, and in New South Wales more than one-fourth, of the total revenue. The total taxation of Victoria was greater than that of New South Wales by over one million, the excess appearing chiefly under the head of Customs. Under other heads the revenue in New South Wales from post and telegraphs exceeded that in Victoria by 160,000*l.*, and that from other sources by 73,000*l.*

Sources of revenue in Australasia.

84. Of the 27½ millions sterling which formed the total revenue of the Australasian Colonies in 1888 over 10½ millions, or nearly two-fifths, was raised by taxation, chiefly through the Customs; 8 millions, or something less than one-third, was derived from railways; over 4⅓ millions from Crown lands; and not quite 2 millions from post and telegraphs. The following are the exact figures, also the amounts per head, distinguishing those relating to Continental Australia from those relating to Australasian Colonies taken as a whole:—

Heads of Revenue in Australia and Australasia, 1888.

Heads of Revenue.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Proportions per Cent.	Amount.	Proportions per Cent.
Taxation—	£		£	
Customs - -	6,273,336	27·50	7,961,965	28·89
Other taxes - -	1,976,518	8·67	2,725,354	9·89
Total - -	8,249,854	36·17	10,687,319	38·78
Crown lands - -	3,963,850	17·38	4,338,565	15·74
Railways - -	7,002,843	30·70	8,082,871	29·33
Posts and telegraphs -	1,514,444	6·64	1,883,650	6·84
Other sources - -	2,077,623	9·11	2,566,092	9·31
Total - -	22,808,614	100·00	27,558,497	100·00

Heads of expenditure of Australasian Colonies.

85. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts expended under a few of the principal heads in the respective Colonies during the most recent year for which the particulars are available :—

Heads of Expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

Heads of Expenditure.	Victoria. (1888-9.)	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways (working expenses).	1,803,124	1,778,590	531,144	483,207	44,080	87,906	675,895
Post and telegraphs -	619,070	616,371	315,763	179,492	35,429	63,404	252,831
Interest and expenses of public debt, &c.	1,459,242	1,745,695	1,015,667	717,906	63,820	184,613	1,569,556
Immigration - -	—	7,854	11,031	559	5,820	502	—
Other services -	4,038,466	4,830,341	1,494,800	995,235	235,980	373,061	1,464,630
Total - -	7,919,902	8,778,851	3,368,405	2,376,399	385,129	709,486	3,962,912
	Proportions per cent.						
Railways (working expenses).	22·77	17·98	15·77	20·33	11·45	12·39	17·05
Post and telegraphs -	7·82	7·02	9·37	7·56	9·20	8·94	6·38
Interest and expenses of public debt, &c.	18·42	19·89	30·15	30·21	16·57	26·02	39·61
Immigration - -	—	·09	·33	·02	1·51	·07	—
Other services -	50·99	55·02	44·38	41·88	61·27	52·58	36·96
Total - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Heads of expenditure in Australasian Colonies compared.

86. It will be observed that the railway expenditure was smaller by nearly 225,000*l.* in New South Wales than in Victoria, where it amounted to over 1¾ million sterling, or nearly a fourth of the total expenditure, but the interest payable on the public debt was larger by nearly 290,000*l.* in the former than in the latter Colony. In New Zealand also, which has less than half the revenue of Victoria, the interest on the public debt exceeded that in Victoria by over 110,000*l.* Four of the Colonies have now an annual charge for interest varying from 1 to close on 1¾ million sterling. In Victoria and New South Wales the postal and telegraph expenditure exceeds 610,000*l.*, it being somewhat higher in the former than in the latter Colony. The expenditure on immigration should be considered in conjunction with that expended during the year from loans.

Proportion of expenditure on various objects.

87. It will also be noticed that nearly half the total expenditure in Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania, nearly three-fifths in Queensland and South Australia, and over three-fifths in New

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Zealand, was devoted to the working of railways and post and telegraphs, and the payment of interest on the public debt. In Victoria the railway working expenses alone amounted to nearly one-fourth of the total, and the interest on the public debt to nearly a fifth, the former being much higher than in the other Colonies, whilst the latter was not nearly so high in Victoria as in Tasmania, where it amounted to 26 per cent., or in Queensland or South Australia, where it was 30 per cent., or in New Zealand, where it was as high as 39 per cent. The proportion expended on post and telegraph services, it will be noticed, varied from 6 per cent. in New Zealand and 7 per cent. in New South Wales to over 9 per cent. in Queensland and Western Australia. In Victoria it was not quite 8 per cent.

Heads of expenditure in Australasia.

88. The following is a summary of the aggregate expenditure under the various heads referred to for Australia and Australasia :—

Heads of Expenditure in Australia and Australasia, 1888.

Heads of Expenditure.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Amount per cent.	Amount.	Amount per cent.
	£		£	
Railways (working expenses) - -	4,211,807	18·98	4,975,608	18·52
Post and telegraphs -	1,790,168	8·07	2,106,403	7·84
Interest on public debt, &c.	4,928,209	22·20	6,682,378	24·87
Immigration - -	25,269	·11	25,771	·10
Other services - -	11,240,482	50·64	13,078,173	48·67
Total - -	22,195,935	100·00	26,868,333	100·00

NOTE.—The amounts in this table are summarized from statements of the amounts expended in the various Colonies for the year ended 31st December 1888, except in the case of Victoria, for which Colony the amounts for the year ended 30th June 1888 have been taken.

Loan expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

89. In addition to the expenditure of amounts derived from the general revenue, as shown in the last two tables, all the Colonies spend large sums of borrowed money, chiefly on railways and waterworks, but also, in some instances, on the construction of electric telegraphs, harbour works and lighthouses, defence works, roads and bridges, school buildings, and other public works, and on immigration. The following table shows the total

loan expenditure of the various Colonies during 1888, also the amounts per head :— VICTORIA.

Expenditure from Loans in Australasian Colonies, 1888.

Name of Colony.	Expenditure from Loans during 1888.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.
Victoria - - - - -	2,389,944	2 6 1
New South Wales - - - -	1,991,306	1 17 5
Queensland - - - - -	1,574,258	4 3 6
South Australia - - - -	988,803	3 2 4
Western Australia - - - -	45,858	1 0 9
Total - -	6,988,169	2 9 3
Tasmania - - - - -	412,436	2 17 2
New Zealand - - - -	739,674	1 4 5
Grand Total - -	8,140,279	2 5 4

NOTE.—In this table the figures for Victoria relate to the year ended 30th June 1888, those for the other Colonies to that ended 31st December.

90. The amounts whereof revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. In Victoria the former class consists of Customs and Excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licences, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprises amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, from water supply, from post and telegraph offices, from the Mint, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the interest on the public account, from the labour of prisoners, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle:— Taxation.

Taxation, 1888–9.

	£
Revenue raised by taxation - -	3,749,670
„ „ otherwise - -	4,926,320
Total - - -	8,675,990

91. In 1888–9 over 43 per cent. of the total revenue was raised by taxation; and if the amount so raised be divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year, already stated to have been 1,085,630, an average will be obtained of 3*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* to each individual. The following table contains a statement of Taxation per head.

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the gross amount of taxation, the average amount per head, and the proportion of taxation to the total revenue, during each year since 1853:—

Taxation, 1853 *to* 1888–9.

Year.	Taxation.		
	Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Percentage of Total Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1853 - -	800,577	4 1 11	24·74
1854 - -	1,052,462	3 18 8	34·08
1855 - -	1,195,309	3 10 6	43·73
1856 - -	1,458,647	3 16 7	49·07
1857 - -	1,331,362	3 1 10	40·00
1858 - -	1,414,511	2 18 6	47·57
1859 - -	1,414,760	2 14 8	43·38
1860 - -	1,330,761	2 9 10	43·11
1861 - -	1,244,389	2 6 1	42·15
1862 - -	1,183,194	2 3 2	36·19
1863 - -	1,158,219	2 1 2	41·74
1864 - -	1,167,036	1 19 10	39·49
1865 - -	1,214,479	1 19 9	39·47
1866 - -	1,219,567	1 18 9	39·61
1867 - -	1,516,231	2 7 1	47·14
1868 - -	1,352,818	2 0 10	41·87
1869 - -	1,539,495	2 4 10	45·49
1870 - -	1,394,333	1 19 1	42·75
1871 (six months) -	724,261	0 19 10	42·82
1871-2 - -	1,612,034	2 3 2	43·17
1872-3 - -	1,784,056	2 7 0	48·96
1873-4 - -	1,896,842	2 9 2	46·19
1874-5 - -	1,724,822	2 4 0	40·71
1875-6 - -	1,780,392	2 5 0	41·16
1876-7 - -	1,770,685	2 4 2	37·48
1877-8 - -	1,712,953	2 2 0	38·03
1878-9 - -	1,730,088	2 1 10	37·44
1879-80 - -	1,690,923	2 0 3	36·59
1880-81 - -	2,003,704	2 6 7	38·64
1881-2 - -	2,317,706	2 12 8	41·44
1882-3 - -	2,334,255	2 11 10	41·60
1883-4 - -	2,318,520	2 10 4	39·07
1884-5 - -	2,548,171	2 13 10	40·51
1885-6 - -	2,634,560	2 14 3	40·65
1886-7 - -	2,739,635	2 14 8	40·68
1887-8 - -	3,071,003	2 19 2	40·37
1888-9 -	3,749,670	3 9 1	43·22

NOTE.—An export duty on gold existed from May 1855 to the end of 1867. The receipts from that source have not, for the purposes of this table, been considered as taxation.

Taxation of Australia and Australasia.

92. The total taxation levied on the continent of Australia in 1888 amounted to 8¼ millions sterling, and the total taxation of the Colonies on the continent, added to that of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to over 10½ million sterling. The exact

figures will be found in the following table, also the average amount of taxation per head of the population, and the proportion that the taxation bore to the total revenue:—

Taxation of Australia and Australasia, 1888.*

	Taxation.		
	Gross Amount.	Average per Head.	Per-centage of Total Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
Continent of Australia - - - -	8,249,854	2 18 1	36·17
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand -	16,687,319	2 19 6	38·78

93. By comparing the above figures with those of this Colony, it will be found that in Victoria the taxation per head of the population is about 10*s.* higher, and the proportion of taxation to the total revenue is higher by about a tenth than the corresponding items in the Australasian Colonies as a whole. Comparison of Victoria and Australasia.

94. The public debt of Victoria amounted on 30th June 1889† to 37,627,382*l.*, consisting of moneys:— Public debt.

	£
Borrowed in Victoria - -	1,529,482
,, England - -	36,097,900
Total - -	37,627,382

95. The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June 1889 was 47,944,902*l.*; but a total of 10,317,520*l.* having been repaid, viz., 2,103,100*l.* out of the general revenue, and 8,214,420*l.* out of the proceeds of redemption loans, the balance outstanding on the 30th June 1889 was reduced to 37,627,382*l.* The amount of public debt borrowed under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, the amount paid off, and the Purposes for which loans were incurred.

* In the case of Victoria the figures for 1887–8 have been taken.

† On the 30th June 1890 the public debt amounted to 41,377,693*l.*

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amount outstanding on the 30th June 1889, are shown in the following table:—

Purposes for which Loans were Raised.

Purposes.	Total Amount Borrowed.	Amount Paid off.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June 1889.
	£	£	£
Railways - - - -	29,167,719	68,100	29,099,619
Water supply—			
Melbourne - - - -	2,446,456	800,000	1,646,455
Country - - - -	3,992,172	—	3,992,173
Parliament houses - - -	246,453	—	246,453
Law courts - - - -	354,260	—	354,260
Public offices - - - -	166,195	—	166,195
Defences - - - -	100,000	—	100,000
State schools - - - -	1,105,557	—	1,105,557
Yarra Bridge - - - -	108,043	—	108,043
Harbours, &c. - - - -	275,554	—	275,554
Graving-dock - - - -	350,464	—	350,464
Tramways in country districts - -	182,609	—	182,609
Melbourne and Geelong improvements -	735,000	735,000	—
Treasury bonds - - - -	500,000	500,000	—
	39,730,482	2,103,100	37,627,382
Redemption of loans - - -	8,214,420	8,214,420	—
Total - - -	47,944,902	10,317,520	37,627,382

Rates of interest.

96. Only about a twelfth of the public debt bears interest at 3½ per cent., whilst over two-thirds bears interest at 4 per cent., and the balance at higher rates up to 6 per cent. The following are the rates of interest payable on the various amounts of which the public debt of Victoria was composed on the 30th June 1889:—

Rates of Interest.	Amount at each Rate.
	£
6 per cent. - - - -	1,126,100
5 per cent. - - - -	2,603,800
4½ per cent. - - - -	5,000,000
4 per cent. - - - -	25,897,482
3½ per cent. - - - -	3,000,000
Total - -	37,627,382

97. More than two-thirds of the interest on the debt is payable in July and January, and the remainder in October and April. About nineteen-twentieths of the interest is payable in London, and the remainder in Melbourne. The following table shows the amounts payable during the ensuing financial year at those times and places on the debt existing on the 30th June 1889:— Interest on debt.

Interest on Public Debt.

Rate per Cent.	When Due.	Amount payable Annually— In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
		£	£	£
6	July and January - -	—	51,000	51,000
5	„ „ - -	15,645	105,350	120,995
4½	„ „ - -	—	225,000	225,000
4	„ „ - -	—	598,280	598,280
3½	„ „ - -	—	105,000	105,000
	Total - -	15,645	1,084,630	1,100,275
6	October and April - -	16,566	—	16,566
4	„ „ - -	37,619	400,000	437,619
	Total - -	54,185	400,000	454,185
		69,830	1,484,630	1,554,460
	Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.	1,460	7,735	9,195
	Grand Total - -	71,290	1,492,365	1,563,655

98. The annual inertest payable on the public debt, as it existed at the end of the financial year 1888–9, was equivalent to an average rate of about 4*l.* 3*s.* per 100*l.*, the rates on the amounts borrowed for the different works in most cases varying from 4 to 4½ per cent. No money has been borrowed at 6 per cent. since 1866; and the 5, 4½, 4, and 3½ per cent. loans floated since, together with the substitution of 4 per cent. debentures for the 6 per cents. which had become due, have gradually brought down the rate of interest, so that at the end of 1888–9 it averaged only about 4*l.* 3*s.* per cent. as just stated. Interest on loans for different works.

99. The following table contains a statement of the amount of interest payable annually on the public debts of various countries, also the proportion that such interest bears to the total expendi- Interest on debt.

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Proportion to total expenditure.

ture of each country. The countries are arranged in order according to the proportion referred to :—

Interest on Public Debt and Proportion thereof to Total Expenditure in Various Countries.

Countries.	Annual Interest on Public Debt.	
	Amount (000's omitted).	Proportion of Total Expenditure.
	£	Per cent.
Portugal	4,720,	55
Roumania	2,360,	48
New Zealand	1,570,	40
Greece	1,480,	40
Austria	11,280,	38
Hungary	10,640,	38
France	53,480,	35
Spain	10,960,	32
Russia	27,800,	31
Italy	12,600,	31
Belgium	3,840,	31
United Kingdom	27,000,	30
Queensland	1,106,	30
South Australia	718,	30
Tasmania	185,	26
Holland	2,640,	24
New South Wales	1,746,	20
Victoria	1,385,	19
Denmark	560,	19
Western Australia	64,	17
Sweden	800,	16
Prussia	8,480,	13
Norway	280,	11
Germany	4,360,	9
Switzerland	80,	3

Relation of debt to expenditure in Victoria and other countries.

100. According to the table the only countries in the world in which the relation of the public debt to the public expenditure is smaller than in Victoria are Western Australia, Sweden, Prussia, Norway, Germany, and Switzerland. So far as the German Empire is concerned, the result might be different if the indebtedness of the several German States was taken into account. New Zealand, it will be observed, stands near the head of the list, having only two countries above it, and all the other Australasian Colonies, except Western Australia, occupy a higher and consequently worse position than Victoria.

Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

101. The aggregate debt of the Colonies on the continent of Australia was nearly 125 millions at the end of 1888, being 7 millions more than in 1887 ; and the aggregate debt of Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, was nearly 168 millions sterling, being over 7½ millions more than in 1887. The following are the exact figures for 1888, also the proportion of

indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the Colonies within the same limits :—

Public Debt of Australia and Australasia, 1888.

	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	Per cent.
Continent of Australia - - -	124,991,381	42 14 9	5·48
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand - - - - -	167,816,401	45 12 6	6·09

Increase of debt in Australasia in 15 years.

102. During the year 1888 the public debt of Australasia, taken as a whole, increased by 7½ millions, or nearly 5 per cent., but the amount per head of population increased by only 10*s.* During the 15 years ended with 1888 the public debt increased by 125 millions, or fourfold, whilst the proportion per head was much more than doubled. The debt also in the first 13 of those years increased in a much greater ratio than the public revenue, for whereas in 1873 it was equal to the income of the Colonies for only about three and a half years, in 1886 it was equal to their income for six and a half years; but since 1886 it has fallen in this respect, and it amounted to little more than six years' revenue in 1888. This is shown by the following figures :—

Increase of Public Debt of Australasia, 1873 *to* 1888.

Year.	Public Debt of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1873 - -	42,672,423	20 7 1	3·46
1886 - -	153,209,998	44 14 3	6·52
1887 - -	160,227,689	45 2 3	6·46
1888 - -	167,816,401	45 12 6	6·09
Increase 1873–88 -	125,143,978	25 5 5	2·63
„ 1888 -	7,588,712	0 10 3	–·37

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Marriages, 1889.

105. The marriages returned to the Registrar-General in 1889 numbered 9,194, as against 8,946 in the previous year. The excess in favour of 1889 was thus 248.

Marriages, 1889 and former years.

104. More marriages were returned in 1889 than in any previous year. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made, which has been more than sustained since. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; in 1884, they exceeded 7,000; in 1888 they nearly realised 9,000, and in 1889 they exceeded that number by 200.

Marriage rates in Australasian Colonies.

105. The following table gives a statement of the number of marriages to every 1,000 of the population of the various Australasian Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1889, except Western Australia, for which Colony it is given for the last 18 of those years:—

Marriage Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 *to* 1889.

Year.	Number of Marriages per 1,000 of Mean Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 - -	7·36	8·94	13·27	9·45	—	6·27	10·47
1866 - -	6·76	8·26	11·61	8·12	—	5·93	10·32
1867 - -	6·97	7·84	9·54	8·20	—	6·10	9·69
1868 - -	7·08	8·23	8·33	7·37	—	6·57	9·35
1869 - -	6·89	8·04	8·31	6·78	—	6·42	8·32
1870 - -	6·63	7·85	7·80	6·90	—	6·62	7·62
1871 - -	6·37	7·78	8·06	6·77	—	5·90	7·15
1872 - -	6·36	7·46	8·70	7·20	5·56	6·17	6·85
1873 - -	6·50	8·05	9·66	8·00	6·25	6·36	7·91
1874 - -	6·33	7·70	8·62	8·00	6·96	6·83	8·87
1875 - -	6·33	7·88	8·63	8·01	7·26	6·63	8·94
1876 - -	6·21	7·66	7·57	8·49	7·07	7·13	8·25
1877 - -	6·31	7·94	7·57	8·66	6·38	7·79	7·63
1878 - -	6·20	8·08	6·98	9·47	6·50	7·96	8·03
1879 - -	5·98	7·80	7·49	8·81	7·57	7·23	7·60
1880 - -	6·22	7·68	6·97	8·69	7·42	7·38	6·71
1881 - -	6·79	8·27	7·71	8·33	6·60	7·30	6·65
1882 - -	7·09	8·74	8·56	8·73	7·07	8·03	7·07
1883 - -	7·43	8·88	8·93	8·49	6·95	9·01	6·82
1884 - -	7·73	8·49	8·91	8·28	7·11	7·81	6·88
1885 - -	7·72	8·18	9·20	7·82	7·51	7·97	6·73
1886 - -	7·84	7·97	8·38	6·31	7·99	7·27	5·99
1887 - -	7·62	7·42	8·21	6·31	7·58	6·71	5·97
1888 - -	8·42	7·37	8·63	6·56	7·18	6·59	5·97
1889 - -	8·33	6·76	7·87	6·47	6·99	6·50	5·99
Means -	6·94	7·97	8·62	7·85	7·00	6·98	7·67

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Reasons for marriage rates being higher in other Colonies than in Victoria.

106. It will be observed that the mean marriage rate is slightly lower in Victoria than in Western Australia and Tasmania, and much lower than in the other Colonies, and as during the whole period over which the calculations extend, Victoria has certainly been second to none of the other Colonies in point of wealth and prosperity, this may create surprise in the minds of those who fail to realise the fact that marriage rates, calculated upon the total population, do not afford an indication of the amount of prosperity in a community so much as of the proportion which single men at marriageable ages bear to the population as a whole. In civilised countries the age at which four-fifths of the males who marry enter the marriage state is between 20 and 35 years. It naturally follows, therefore, that on the number of single males at such ages the number of marriages mainly depends. Prior to the taking of the last census it was mentioned as probable that there had been a falling-off in the male population of Victoria at those ages; and, as was anticipated, the census disclosed the fact that Victoria had, in proportion to the total population, a smaller number of males between 20 and 40 than any of the other Colonies. The explanation of the higher proportion in the other Colonies of males at the period named is to be found mainly in the fact that they—especially New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and New Zealand—had, for many years, introduced large numbers of adults at the cost of the State, and, as is nearly always the case when immigration is subsidised, these were accompanied or followed by a steady stream of unassisted immigrants. Besides, not one of the neighbouring Colonies was subjected, in the early days of its history, to so large an influx of adult male immigrants unaccompanied by persons at younger ages, followed by a cessation of immigration, as was the case in Victoria at and since the time of the early gold discoveries. As the young population has grown to a marriageable age, however, this Colony has assumed a normal condition; and this circumstance has for several years past brought about a marked improvement in the marriage rate, so much so, that in this respect Victoria was in 1889 in advance of all the neighbouring Colonies.

Ages of bridegrooms and brides in combination.

107. The age of both bridegroom and bride was specified in the case of all but 50 of the 9,194 marriages which took place in 1889. In 41 of the defective entries the age of neither party was given; in six cases the age of the husband was stated, but not that of the wife; and in three instances the age of the wife was given, but not that of the husband. The following table shows the ages of the husbands and of the wives in combination:—

Ages of Bridegrooms and Brides in Combination, 1889.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	Ages of Brides.																				Total Bride-grooms.
	Under 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 to 75.	75 to 80.	Unspecified.	
18 to 19 years	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
19 to 20 „	—	2	2	8	11	7	5	23	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62
20 to 21 „	—	3	2	6	19	24	20	41	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	124
21 to 25 „	1	3	25	91	185	227	296	1,564	332	37	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2,772
25 to 30 „	—	—	10	49	118	183	253	1,576	1,111	181	25	9	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	3,523
30 to 35 „	—	—	5	9	35	50	71	467	522	234	47	12	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,457
35 to 40 „	—	—	1	3	1	8	12	109	164	94	55	13	11	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	475
30 to 45 „	—	—	—	—	4	2	2	45	56	64	38	23	13	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	252
45 to 50 „	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	18	37	39	34	19	19	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	177
50 to 55 „	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	7	11	22	18	26	16	10	3	1	1	—	—	—	118
55 to 60 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	9	12	17	16	8	7	3	3	—	—	—	86
60 to 65 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	6	8	10	15	3	3	—	—	—	—	53
65 to 70 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	2	3	5	5	4	—	—	—	25
70 to 75 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	—	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	12
75 to 80 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	6
80 to 85 „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	44
Total Brides	1	8	45	167	378	503	662	3,862	2,253	687	247	132	98	53	23	15	11	1	1	47	9,194

NOTE.—This table may be read thus:—Three men between 21 and 25 married girls between 15 and 16; eight women between 35 and 40 married men between 21 and 25, &c.

Relative ages of husband and wife.

108. An examination of the 9,144 cases in which the ages of both parties are specified will show that in 3,060 instances, or 33 per cent. of the whole, both parties to the marriage were about the same age; in 812 instances, or 9 per cent. of the whole, the wife was older than the husband; and in 5,272 instances, or 58 per cent. of the whole, the husband was older than the wife.

Inequalities of age.

109. Some striking inequalities of age amongst the parties married appear in several of the columns, as, for instance, a man between 65 and 70, and a man between 70 and 75, married women between 21 and 25; three men between 50 and 55 married girls under 21; and three men between 45 and 50 married girls between 17 and 20. On the other hand, four women between 21 and 25 married youths of 18; a woman between 30 and 35 married a youth of 20; a woman between 55 and 60 married a man between 25 and 30; a woman between 65 and 70 married a man between 40 and 45, &c.

Extreme ages of marriage.

110. It will be noticed that six youths, aged 18, took upon themselves the cares and responsibilities of matrimony, four of their wives, however, being at least three years older than their husbands. On the other hand, it will be remarked that eight men who had passed the age of 75—two of whom had passed the age of 80—entered the marriage state, the bride of one being of the same mature age as her husband, whilst the brides of the others were generally much younger; the youngest, however, not being less than 40.

Births, 1889.

111. The births registered in Victoria during 1889 numbered 36,359 as against 34,503, in 1888. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 1,856.

Births in 1889, and former years.

112. During the 20 years ended with 1883 the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which has continued during the five subsequent years, the number of births in 1889 being the highest ever recorded. The increase between 1889 and 1888 was 1,856, as compared with 1,460 between 1888 and 1887.

Birth rates in Australasian Colonies.

113. Returns of the births in all the Australasian Colonies are available to the end of 1889, and from these and the mean populations of the respective Colonies during each year the birth rates have been calculated in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne. The following table gives the birth rates of the different Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1889, or as many years between those periods as the figures are available for:—

VICTORIA.

Birth Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 to 1889.

Year.	Number of Births per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 -	42·40	43·21	43·65	43·90	—	32·56	41·12
1866 -	39·76	40·45	44·86	42·38	—	29·15	42·89
1867 -	39·75	41·94	45·66	41·87	—	30·34	42·18
1868 -	41·08	40·72	43·03	41·51	—	30·03	42·14
1869 -	37·89	40·74	42·83	39·03	—	28·27	41·90
1870 -	38·07	40·09	43·51	38·48	—	30·18	42·32
1871 -	37·15	39·63	43·25	38·34	—	30·16	40·64
1872 -	36·33	38·46	40·70	37·60	32·42	29·44	39·50
1873 -	36·71	39·38	40·82	36·42	31·43	29·43	39·00
1874 -	34·46	39·30	41·11	38·22	33·71	29·72	40·27
1875 -	33·94	38·53	38·90	35·70	28·72	29·88	40·23
1876 -	33·61	38·56	37·48	37·71	33·98	30·11	41·73
1877 -	32·17	37·92	36·75	37·36	33·07	30·21	41·28
1878 -	32·36	38·50	35·77	38·23	31·11	32·27	42·14
1879 -	32·18	38·99	36·74	38·96	34·38	32·05	40·32
1880 -	30·75	38·80	36·92	38·94	32·35	32·91	40·78
1881 -	31·24	38·13	37·19	38·66	33·67	33·40	37·95
1882 -	30·05	37·37	35·85	37·40	35·84	33·50	37·32
1883 -	30·23	37·49	36·92	37·37	33·87	34·25	36·28
1884 -	30·89	38·54	36·23	38·38	33·84	35·66	36·15
1885 -	31·37	37·64	37·80	38·47	35·22	35·08	34·78
1886 -	31·23	37·03	37·84	35·70	39·43	34·15	33·15
1887 -	32·40	36·42	38·09	34·56	37·34	33·87	32·09
1888 -	32·49	36·20	37·77	33·06	35·88	33·10	31·22
1889 -	32·92	33·73	36·27	32·37	37.14	31·97	30·07
Means -	34·45	38·71	39·44	38·02	34·68	31·67	38·70

Low birth-rates in Australasian Colonies in 1889.

114. In 1889 the birth rate was remarkably low in most of the Colonies, and was below the average in all except Western Australia and Tasmania. Even in Tasmania it was lower than in any year since 1877. In New South Wales, South Australia, and New Zealand the rate was absolutely the lowest recorded during the whole period of 25 years; whilst in Queensland it was about the same as in 1884, but lower than in any other year shown in the table except 1882 and 1878. In Victoria the rate, although still below the average, was higher than in any year since 1876, as has been already stated. In Western Australia the birth rate was about equal to that in 1887, but was much higher than in any previous year except 1886.

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Deaths, 1889.

115. The deaths registered in 1889 numbered 19,392, as against 16,287 in 1888. The increase in the year under notice was thus 3,105, or 19 per cent.

Deaths, 1889, and former years.

116. In 1889, for the first time, the deaths exceeded 19,000, whereas in 1887 and 1888 they did not much exceed 16,000; in 1886 they numbered less than 15,000, but in only one prior year, viz., 1875, did they reach that number. The high mortality in the last-named year, in which 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form.

Natural increase of population.

117. In 1889 the population of Victoria increased at the rate of 1·56 per cent. by excess of births over deaths, at which rate, irrespective of immigration, the population would double itself in 45 years. This proportion, however, was the lowest, with one exception, during the last 10 years, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Increase of Population by Excess of Births over Deaths, 1880 *to* 1889.

	Per cent.
1880	1·70
1881	1·73
1882	1·49
1883	1·61
1884	1·66
1885	1·65
1886	1·63
1887	1·70
1888	1·76
1889	1·56
Mean	1·65

Death rates in town and country, 1889.

118. In every country the death rate is higher in towns than it is in the extra-urban districts. This circumstance, although no doubt partly attributable to the superior healthfulness and immunity from contagion prevailing in the latter, is also to a great extent due to the fact that hospitals and charitable institutions, which are frequented by patients from the country as well as by town residents, are generally situated in the towns; and further, that, outside of charitable institutions, many persons die who have come from the country on the approach of serious illness for the sake of the superior nursing and medical attendance to be obtained in town. In 1889 the death rate was somewhat higher in Melbourne and suburbs than in the country towns, whilst in the former it was nearly two and a third times as high, and in the

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latter more than twice as high as in the country districts. The following are the figures for that year :—

Deaths in Urban and Country Districts, 1889.

Districts.	Estimated Mean Population.	Deaths, 1889.	
		Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.
Melbourne and suburbs (Greater Melbourne).	445,220	10,412	23·39
Extra-metropolitan towns -	196,400	4,303	21·91
Country districts - -	462,680	4,677	10·11
Total - -	1,104,300	19,392	17·56

Royal Mint.

119. A branch of the Royal Mint was established in Melbourne in 1872, and was opened to the public on the 12th June of that year. The premises occupy 2 acres 1 rood 26 perches of land, valued in October 1880 at 8,500*l.*, but now probably worth ten times that amount; the original cost of the buildings, machinery, fittings, and furniture was 68,350*l.*

Gold received at Mint.

120. From the time of the opening of the Mint to the end of 1889, 11¼ million ounces of gold were received thereat. In point of average purity the gold sent to the Mint is considerably above the standard (viz., 22 carats, worth 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz.), and thus the value of the whole quantity was 45 millions sterling, or almost exactly 4*l.* per oz. The following table shows the quantity and value of the gold received in each year :—

Gold Received at the Melbourne Mint, 1872 *to* 1889.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Oz.	£
1872 - - - -	190,738	764,917
1873 - - - -	221,870	887,127
1874 - - - -	335,318	1,349,102
1875 - - - -	489,732	1,947,713
1876 - - - -	543,199	2,149,481
1877 - - - -	378,310	1,491,819
1878 - - - -	569,932	2,267,431
1879 - - - -	656,556	2,637,738
1880 - - - -	758,721	3,061,820
1881 - - - -	692,213	2,792,985
1882 - - - -	818,905	3,310,971
1883 - - - -	785,716	3,158,420
1884 - - - -	945,429	3,802,229
1885 - - - -	836,169	3,350,737
1886 - - - -	756,249	3,028,374
1887 - - - -	769,897	3,074,223
1888 - - - -	757,548	3,022,384
1889 - - - -	761,616	3,029,731
Total - -	11,268,118	45,127,202

Gold received in standard ounces.

121. A simple calculation, based upon the total value, as shown in the lowest line of the last column of the table, will show that the gold received amounted to 11,589,650 ounces standard, valued at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz., or 321,532 ounces more than the actual weight of gold received at the Mint.

Gold received, 1889.

122. It will be observed that the gold received at the Mint in 1889 exceeded by 4,068 ounces the quantity in 1888, but was less than in any other year since 1881 except 1886.

Mint charges.

123. Gold deposited at the Mint is subject to a charge of 1½*d.* per oz. on the gross weight before melting if the deposit contains 1,000 ounces of standard gold or over; and of 2*d.* per oz. if the deposit contains less than 1,000 ounces, the minimum charge on any deposit being 4*s.*

Mint allowances.

124. Any silver in a deposit in excess of 4 per cent. of the weight of the deposit after melting is allowed for at a rate per oz. to be fixed from time to time by the Deputy Master. A reduction of a sixth of the charge is made on deposits containing more than 24 ounces of unrefinable gold, or gold containing silver in less proportion than 4½ per cent., and base metal in less proportion than 2 per cent. of the weight of the deposit after melting.

Number of banks.

125. During 1889 there were 16 banks in Victoria, 13 of which were banks of issue, possessing therein 485 branches or agencies. There were 11 banks of issue in the Colony both in 1884 and 1879.

Liabilities, assets, &c. of banks.

126. The position of the banks as regards liabilities, assets, capital, and profits, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the same three years, was as follows:—

Financial Position of Banks, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

——	1879.	1884.	1889.
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Notes in circulation	1,090,760	1,391,644	1,657,082
Bills in circulation	53,957	53,076	115,532
Balances due to other banks	247,343	324,572	269,220
Deposits not bearing interest	4,187,452	6,654,296	10,114,154
„ bearing interest	12,238,713	21,762,748	28,654,782
Total	17,818,225	30,186,336	40,810,770
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	3,154,566	4,666,586	6,230,624
Gold and silver in bullion and bars	320,779	348,163	302,413
Landed property	847,389	1,037,844	1,679,255
Notes and bills of other banks	113,373	135,959	307,710
Balances due from other banks	185,986	342,345	288,539
Debts due to the banks	20,717,750	29,487,969	48,817,112
Total	25,339,843	36,018,866	57,625,653

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——	1879.	1884.	1889.
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.	£	£	£
Capital stock paid up - - -	9,026,250	8,663,184	13,389,662
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared.	10·698 per cent.	12·521 per cent.	11·443 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared -	482,800	533,690	766,095
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend.	2,698,097	3,553,358	6,141,628

Liabilities, assets, &c. compared at three periods.

127. It will be observed that the shareholders' capital (including reserves) amounted in 1889 to over 19½ millions, having increased by 7,800,000*l.*, or by about two thirds since 1879. The total liabilities show an increase of 23 millions, or 129 per cent., since 1879, or of nearly 10⅔ millions, or 35 per cent., since 1884; whilst the total assets increased by 32⅓ millions, or 127 per cent., since 1879, and by 21½ millions, or 60 per cent., since 1884. This expansion in banking business has been greater than that of the population, which during the 10 years ended with 1889 increased by only 33 per cent. Of the liabilities, the notes and bills in circulation have increased 55 per cent. since 1879 and 23 per cent. since 1884, and this notwithstanding the former have been restricted by a Government tax and other charges, which are said to average as much as 3½ per cent., whilst the deposits, which now compose 95 per cent. of the total liabilities, have increased by over 22 millions in the last 10 and by over 10 millions in the last five years, and now amount to over 38¾ millions. Under the head of assets it will be noticed that in 1889 the banks had over 6½ millions sterling in coin and bullion, which was nearly one million more than in 1888, but 300,000*l.* less than in 1887, and was 1½ million more than in 1884, and nearly twice as much as in 1879; the landed property also represented over 1⅔ million sterling, showing an increase of over 640,000*l.* since 1884, or of 830,000*l.* since 1879; but the most important item of all, the advances (debts due to the banks), which embrace 85 per cent. of the total assets, shows a marked advance in recent years, for since 1879 they have increased by nearly 28 millions, and since 1884 by 19½ millions; and thus in 1889 they amounted to close on 49 millions sterling. It will be observed that in 1889 the advances exceeded the deposits by a little over 10 millions, as against an excess of only one million in 1884 and 4⅓ millions in 1879. The average rate of the last dividend in 1889 (11*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.* per 100*l.*) was not so high as at the middle period, but higher than at the first period. This dividend, it may be remarked, varied in different banks in 1889 from 6 to 17½ per cent.

The following results are arrived at by analysing the bank returns at the three periods:—

The liabilities amounted to -	70·32	per cent.	of the assets in	1879.
	83·81	,,	,,	1884.
	70·82	,,	,,	1889.

Coin and bullion formed - -	13·72	per cent. of the assets in	1879.
	13·92	„ „	1884.
	11·34	„ „	1889.
The paid-up capital was equal to -	35·62	per cent. of the assets in	1879.
	24·05	„ „	1884.
	23·24	„ „	1889.
	50·66	per cent. of the liabilities in	1879.
	28·70	„ „	1884.
	32·81	„ „	1889.
Of the moneys deposited - -	74·51	per cent. bore interest in	1879.
	76·58	„ „	1884.
	73·91	„ „	1889.

Savings banks.

128. Two kinds of savings banks exist in Victoria, the general savings banks, which were first established in 1842, and the Post Office savings banks, which were established in 1865. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having accounts at the last dates of balancing in 1889, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates :—

Savings Banks, 1889.

Description of Institution.	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
			Total.	Average to each Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Post Office savings banks -	314	98,134	1,790,756	18 5 0
General savings banks -	16	162,933	3,230,766	19 16 7
Tota - -	330	261,067	5,021,522	19 4 8

Savings banks, 1872 to 1889.

129. In the 18 years, 1872 to 1889, the number of depositors in savings banks has increased nearly fourfold. For several years prior to 1880 the amount standing to the credit of the depositors had been tolerably uniform, but since then a steady increase has taken place, and by 1889 it had risen to over five millions sterling, or 352,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and over three times the amount in 1880, nine years previously. The average amount to each depositor was highest in 1872 and lowest in 1887, the proportion of the latter being 1*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* less than in the year under review. The following is a statement of the number of depositors and the amount remaining on deposit during the period referred to :—

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Savings Banks, 1872 *to* 1889.

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
		Total.	Average to each Depositor.
		£	£ s. d.
1872 - -	52,749	1,405,738	26 13 0
1873 - -	58,547	1,498,618	25 11 11
1874 - -	64,014	1,617,301	25 5 3
1875 - -	65,837	1,469,849	22 6 6
1876 - -	69,027	1,507,235	21 16 9
1877 - -	73,245	1,575,305	21 10 2
1878 - -	76,696	1,510,273	19 13 7
1879 - -	82,941	1,520,296	18 6 7
1880 - -	92,115	1,661,409	18 0 9
1881 - -	107,282	2,569,438	23 19 0
1882 - -	122,584	3,121,246	25 9 3
1883 - -	136,087	2,818,122	20 14 2
1884 - -	152,342	2,981,083	19 11 4
1885 - -	170,014	3,337,018	19 12 7
1886 - -	189,359	3,589,916	18 19 2
1887 - -	206,596	3,696,699	17 17 10
1888 - -	237,433	4,669,541	19 13 4
1889 - -	261,067	5,021,522	19 4 8

Rate of interest in savings banks.

130. The highest rate of interest savings banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent., which rate was paid in all the years. Interest is allowed on the minimum monthly balance, but not on any amounts which do not remain in the savings banks for a full month.

Wealth of the population.

131. The property left by deceased persons affords an indirect means of ascertaining approximately the wealth of the population, for it may be supposed that the average amount left by each person dying is equivalent to the average amount possessed by each person living. The result of such a calculation for three periods of five years and one period of three years is as follows :—

Wealth of the Population, 1872 *to* 1889.

Years.	Property of Deceased Persons sworn under	Total Number of Deaths.	Average Amount left by each Person dying.	Average Number of Persons living.	Total Wealth of the Population.
	£		£		£
1872–1876	11,899,757	63,402	185	776,052	143,569,620
1877–1881	13,732,848	61,552	223	836,677	186,578,971
1882–1886	21,175,159	69,461	305	936,157	285,527,885
1887–1889	23,480,210	51,684	454	1,062,016	482,155,264

Total wealth and wealth per head.

132. The national wealth is shown in the last column. It will be noticed that this amounted to nearly 144 millions sterling, or 185*l.* per head, in the five years 1872 to 1876; to nearly 187 millions sterling, or 223*l.* per head, in the five years 1877 to 1881; to nearly 286 millions sterling, or 305*l.* per head, in the five years 1882 to 1886; and to 482 millions sterling, or 454*l.* per head in the three years ended with 1889. It should, however, be mentioned that several large estates have been entered for probate in the last three years, and it is possible that this may partly account for the very large increase shown by the figures for the latest period.

Public wealth not estimated.

133. It should be explained that the figures given represent only the property possessed by private individuals, no estimate being made of the value of Crown lands, Government or municipal buildings, churches, hospitals, libraries, museums, mechanics' institutes, State schools, forts, artillery, lighthouses, war vessels, railways, telegraphs, &c.; also that the figures no doubt understate the truth, as a considerable amount of property is taken over by relatives without any declaration of value, or issue of probate or letters of administration, and that, in order to reduce as much as possible the amount to be paid as succession duty, the properties are frequently declared at less than their full value.

Wealth as compared with indebtedness.

134. In the middle of 1889 the national debt amounted to 37,627,382*l.*, equal to little more than 10 per cent. of the value of property as above estimated; but it must not be forgotten that, as a set-off to the debt, there is public property of immense value which is not included in the above estimate, and that the amount which could be realised by the sale of the State railways alone, the original cost of which was about 33 millions, would probably be amply sufficient to extinguish the whole debt.

Wealth in Victoria and New South Wales.

135. During the five years ended with 1888, according to the amounts left by persons dying in the two Colonies, the private wealth of the people of Victoria exceeded that of the people of New South Wales by 38 millions sterling. The amount per head was 348*l.* in the former and 314*l.* in the latter Colony, the excess being thus 34*l.* in favour of Victoria:—

Wealth of the Population in Victoria and New South Wales during the Five Years ended with 1888.

Colony.	Property of deceased Persons sworn under	Total Number of Deaths.	Average Amount left by each Person dying.	Average Number of Persons living.	Total Wealth of the Population.
	£		£		£
Victoria - -	26,171,991	75,113	348	992,279	345,313,092
New South Wales -	22,621,703	71,945	314	978,587	307,276,318
Victoria in excess of New South Wales.	3,550,288	3,168	34	13,692	38,036,774

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Arrests, 1888 and 1889.

136. The persons who were taken in charge by the Victorian police in 1889 numbered 37,321, as against 37,309 in 1888; the figures for the two years being thus almost identical.

Arrests, 1879, 1884, and 1889.

The arrests in 1889, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia, were as follow:—

Persons arrested, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Number of Persons.	1879.	1884.	1889.
Taken into custody - - -	24,625	27,503	37,321
Discharged by magistrates - -	7,227	8,900	13,000
Summarily convicted or held to bail -	16,770	17,908	23,298
Committed for trial - - -	628	695	1,023

Arrests, proportion to population.

137. At the last period, it will be observed, arrests were much more numerous than at either of the two previous periods. This is also the case if the numbers of the population be taken into account. The estimated average population in 1879 was 834,030; in 1884, 933,894; and in 1889, 1,104,300. The arrests were, therefore, in the proportion of 1 to every 34 persons living at the first and second periods, and 1 to every 30 persons living at the third period.

Causes of arrest.

138. A condensed statement of the offences for which arrests were made in the same three years, together with the numbers arrested for each offence, will be found in the following table:—

Causes of Arrest, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Offence.	1879.	1884.	1889.
Murder and attempt at murder - - -	15	23	34
Manslaughter - - - - -	14	16	8
Shooting at or wounding with intent to do bodily harm - - - - - -	46	71	70
Assault - - - - - -	1,682	1,809	2,141
Rape and indecent assault on females - -	69	70	74
Unnatural offence and assault with intent to commit	8	17	10
Minor offences against the person - - -	140	93	134
Robbery [illegible]olence, burglary, &c. - -	203	205	409
Horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c. - -	154	130	163
Other offences against property - - -	3,508	3,090	4,097
Forgery and offences against the currency - -	100	74	141
Drunkenness - - - - - -	10,861	12,938	18,068
Other offences against good order - - -	6,041	7,530	10,139
Offences relating to carrying out laws - -	420	228	216
Smuggling and other offences against the revenue -	129	80	167
Offences against public welfare - - -	1,244	1,329	1,450
Total - - - - -	24,625	27,503	37,321

Offences at last period.

139. The causes in respect to which more arrests were made at the last period than at either of the former ones were murder and attempts to murder, assaults, rape and indecent assaults on females, robbery with violence or burglary, horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c., miscellaneous offences against property, forgery, drunkenness, and other offences against good order; smuggling and other offences against the revenue and offences against public welfare. But for manslaughter and offences relating to carrying out laws, there were fewer arrests at the last than at either of the former periods, and for minor offences against the person than at the first period. The most marked increases in 1889, as compared with previous periods, have occurred in the arrests for robbery and burglary, murder, miscellaneous offences against property, and drunkenness, and other offences against good order—most especially the first and last-named offences.

Drunkenness.

140. The number of arrests for drunkenness affords ample evidence that the efforts of those who are seeking to suppress or mitigate the evil are not uncalled for. In many cases, no doubt, the same individual was arrested over and over again; but supposing each arrest had represented a distinct individual, there would have been taken into custody for drunkenness:—

In	1874	one person in every	71	living in	Victoria.
„	1875	„ „	68	„	„
„	1876	„ „	69	„	„
„	1877	„ „	65	„	„
„	1878	„ „	69	„	„
„	1879	„ „	77	„	„
„	1880	„ „	85	„	„
„	1881	„ „	79	„	„
„	1882	„ „	76	„	„
„	1883	„ „	74	„	„
„	1884	„ „	73	„	„
„	1885	„ „	72	„	„
„	1886	„ „	68	„	„
„	1887	„ „	65	„	„
„	1888	„ „	57	„	„
„	1889	„ „	61	„	„

Increase of drunkenness.

141. It will be observed that in 1879, 1880, and 1881, embracing the year in which the Colony was in a depressed condition, as already stated, and the two following years, drunkenness was less rife than at any preceding or subsequent period. Since 1880, however, as the Colony became more prosperous, arrests for drunkenness, in proportion to the population, have been steadily increasing, and on this basis were a third more numerous in 1888 than in 1880; but in the following year, 1889, which was one in which there was a certain amount of depression, they again decreased, but were still higher than in any of the years prior to 1888.

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Minor offences.

142. Drunkenness, "other offences against property," "other offences against good order," and "offences against public welfare," although they may, and probably do—especially the first-named—lead to more serious offences, may be considered as being in themselves, comparatively speaking, minor offences, hardly amounting to crimes. Arrests for these numbered 21,654 in 1879, 24,687 in 1884, and 33,754 in 1889; and to the whole number of arrests were in the proportion of 88 per cent. at the first period, and 90 per cent. at the two later periods. Thus only 12 per cent. of the arrests at the first period and 10 per cent. at the middle and last periods were for crimes in the strict sense of the word.

Smuggling and other offences against revenue.

143. It is worthy of remark that, notwithstanding the inducement which high import duties might be supposed to offer to smugglers, offences against the revenue have never led to many arrests in Victoria. Only 167 persons were taken into custody for such offences in 1889, which, however, is larger than the number in 1884 or in 1879.

Executions.

144. Three criminals, being natives of Victoria, England, and the Philippine Islands, respectively, two of whom claimed to be members of the Church of England and one of the Roman Catholic Church, were executed in 1889, for murder. Since the first settlement of Port Phillip, 145 criminals have been executed within the Colony, of whom only one was a female. No execution took place in 1887 or in 1882, 1878, 1874, 1850, 1849, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, or any year prior to 1842, but one or more executions took place in all the other years. The following table shows the birthplaces of the persons executed, the religions they professed, and the crimes they expiated on the scaffold:—

Criminals Executed, 1842 *to* 1889.

Birthplace, Religion, and Offence.	Number.
Total number executed	145
Birthplace—Victoria	5
" Other Australian Colonies	6
" England	60
" Wales	2
" Ireland	41
" Scotland	8
" Belgium	1
" France	1
" Switzerland	1
" Germany	1
" Sweden	1
" Sicily	1
" United States of America	5
" West Indies	2
" Philippine Islands	1
" China	8
" At sea	1

Birthplace, Religion, and Offence.	Number.
Religion—Church of England	34
" Presbyterian	6
" Wesleyan	8
" Baptist	1
" Lutheran	2
" Protestant undefined	30
" Roman Catholic	53
" Buddhist, Confucian, &c.	6
" No religion	5
Offence—Murder	109
" Attempt to murder	17
" Rape	9
" Unnatural offence on a child	1
" Robbery with violence	9

Imports, exports, and trade.

145. In 1889 the total declared value of the Victorian imports was 24,402,760*l.* and that of the exports 12,734,734*l.*, the excess of imports over exports was thus 11,668,026*l.*, and the whole value of external trade was 37,137,494*l.*

Imports and exports last two years.

146. The value of imports was higher in 1889 than in 1888 by 430,626*l.*, or by not quite 2 per cent., but the value of exports was lower than in that year by 1,119,029*l.*, or by 8 per cent. The value of the total trade was thus lower than in the previous year by 688,403*l.*

Imports and exports, latest and former years.

147. The imports in 1889, as indicated by their values, were higher than in any other year of the Colony's history; the exports, however, according to the same standard, were exceeded in all but five of the previous 34 years.

Imports and exports per head.

148. In the year under review, the value per head of imports was 22*l.* 2*s.* and that of exports was 11*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* The former was lower by 9*s.* 5*d.* and the latter by 1*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* than in the previous year.

External trade in Australia and Australasia.

149. In 1888 the imports of the Colonies on the Australian continent, taken as a whole, amounted to 57,704,317*l.*, or 20*l.* 3*s.* per head, and the exports to 48,791,255*l.*, or 17*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* per head. In the same year the imports of those Colonies, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to 57,331,310*l.*, or 19*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* per head, and the exports to 49,886,866*l.*, or 16*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* per head.

Exports of Victorian produce.

150. The following table gives the total value and value per head of articles of Victorian produce exported, and their

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proportion to the total exports, in each of the last 23 years:—

Exports of Victorian Produce, 1867 *to* 1889.

Year.	Exports of Articles Produced or Manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per Head of the Population.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867 - -	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868 - -	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869 - -	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870 - -	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871 - -	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872 - -	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873 - -	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874 - -	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875 - -	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876 - -	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877 - -	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878 - -	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879 - -	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880 - -	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881 - -	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79
1882 - -	12,570,788	14 2 5	77·63
1883 - -	13,292,294	14 11 9	81·06
1884 - -	13,155,484	14 1 9	81·96
1885 - -	12,452,245	12 19 10	80·06
1886 - -	9,054,687	9 3 5	76·77
1887 - -	8,502,979	8 6 9	74·91
1888 - -	10,356,633	9 15 0	74·76
1889 - -	9,776,670	8 17 1	76·77

Decrease of exports of Victorian products.

151. It will be seen that the total value of exports of local productions shows a considerable falling off during the last four years as compared with previous ones. The worst year was 1887, when such value was lower than in any of the previous 20 years, except 1879, and the value of such exports per head was absolutely the lowest in the whole period; but since then the local export trade has somewhat revived, although it is still considerably below the standard of the earlier years. The proportion of exports of home products to the total exports was higher in 1889 than in the great majority of previous years.

Imports of principal articles at three periods.

152. The values of 66 of the principal articles imported in 1889, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia are placed side by side in the following table:—

Imports of Principal Articles, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Articles.	Value of Imports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Books	193,235	248,216	260,494
Stationery	69,339	95,915	121,861
Musical instruments	56,968	110,013	151,361
Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials	54,075	99,067	83,366
Cutlery	20,298	29,258	36,249
Machinery	86,264	249,925	448,370
Sewing machines	67,962	87,533	61,906
Tools and utensils	31,476	35,423	64,206
Building materials	46,715	111,322	295,869
Furniture and upholstery	36,161	73,719	149,738
Drugs and chemicals	62,287	96,694	103,050
Matches and vestas	38,367	34,073	48,242
Opium	68,806	52,294	39,986
Paints and colours	51,121	81,659	117,803
Carpeting and druggeting	43,214	79,685	124,951
Woollens and woollen piece goods	701,292	923,072	969,412
Silks	200,996	266,040	395,328
Cottons	534,124	946,305	952,262
Linen piece goods	35,228	44,825	39,076
Haberdashery	210,938	362,319	383,837
Apparel and slops	282,298	315,903	473,984
Boots and shoes	179,830	100,756	149,235
Gloves	70,140	95,672	138,804
Hats, caps, and bonnets	116,880	120,684	126,212
Hosiery	107,232	111,961	156,177
Bags and sacks (including wool packs)	181,269	270,772	112,014
Butter and cheese	8,488	1,665	8,571
Fish	121,436	159,338	198,773
Meats—fresh, preserved and salted	9,516	8,337	39,152
Fruit (including currants and raisins)	139,434	188,672	273,631
Flour and biscuit	3,734	18,774	7,341
Grain—wheat	17,029	9,194	49,028
„ oats	104,348	52,082	298,965

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Articles.	Value of Imports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Grain—other (including malt and rice)	459,169	94,423	226,241
Sugar and molasses	1,082,130	1,292,246	992,761
Beer, cider, and perry	193,498	218,294	346,507
Coffee	46,830	41,957	58,314
Hops	35,084	20,486	52,580
Spirits	386,526	433,203	500,417
Tea	513,271	667,800	596,385
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	177,792	217,309	370,724
Wine	91,600	102,042	158,770
Hides, skins, and pelts	55,352	164,265	151,847
Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	138,657	191,969	173,249
Wool*	2,494,573	2,575,905	3,595,449
Paper (including paper bags)	179,505	253,420	361,626
Timber	318,187	733,766	1,390,036
Woodenware	34,420	50,604	77,352
Oil of all kinds	219,006	208,922	217,265
Coal	354,924	412,697	753,048
Earthenware, brownware, and chinaware	61,103	105,656	147,451
Glass and glassware	102,487	155,318	236,964
Gold (exclusive of specie)	983,048	718,817	502,818
Specie—gold	157,000	549,798	217,166
„ other	104,417	4,962	4,721
Jewellery	47,505	63,602	66,456
Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.)	357,729	664,945	1,002,840
Lead—ore, pig, pipe, sheet	11,901	19,061	40,311
Manufactures of metal	70,315	102,043	340,430
Tin	26,371	60,217	48,799
Nails and screws	31,692	49,439	55,155
Plated ware	18,302	25,180	74,944
Live stock	890,126	1,333,154	1,081,348
Fancy goods	33,609	94,658	88,241
Hardware and ironmongery	98,142	191,441	267,096
Oilmen's stores	15,649	17,680	30,065
Total	13,740,370	17,316,452	21,106,630
All other articles	1,295,168	1,885,181	3,296,130
Total imports	15,035,538	19,201,633	24,402,760

* Including the value of wool imported into Victoria across the Murray.

153. The exports of 50 of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same three years:—

Exports of principal articles at three periods.

Exports of Principal Articles, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Articles.	Value of Exports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Books	76,798	87,053	59,745
Stationery	43,652	49,525	29,145
Machinery	75,640	136,819	126,066
Woollens and woollen piece goods	101,910	91,358	77,943
Silks	16,670	29,459	47,648
Cottons	37,884	71,328	72,174
Haberdashery	68,396	78,358	37,460
Apparel and slops	247,717	311,617	154,467
Boots and shoes	128,217	57,467	39,402
Bags and sacks	58,560	64,102	69,101
Butter and cheese	59,714	145,545	46,409
Meats—fresh and preserved	70,721	118,812	20,410
„ salted (including hams and bacon)	29,119	48,099	10,812
Fruits (including currants and raisins)	32,115	18,833	75,085
Flour and biscuit	140,124	339,811	319,938
Grain—wheat	132,314	1,429,715	84,064
„ oats	12,172	15,833	2,758
„ other (including malt and rice)	88,218	88,136	22,880
Onions	7,433	38,710	35,308
Potatoes	59,895	148,729	57,612
Sugar and molasses	231,598	232,474	128,256
Coffee	28,577	19,329	15,926
Spirits	118,254	112,023	84,713
Tea	258,675	359,325	375,157
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	152,871	115,473	112,533
Wine	47,935	46,563	66,283
Bones and bone dust	7,991	13,331	11,596
Candles	13,859	13,055	6,251
Horns and hoofs	2,806	1,174	2,691
Hides	20,217	8,696	25,000
Skins and pelts	30,685	139,942	206,960
Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	241,766	371,497	217,559
Soap	10,857	16,186	17,422
Tallow	150,867	256,686	149,429
Wool*	5,269,634	6,342,887	5,928,932

* Including wool from across the Murray, which is also included in the returns of imports *ante*.

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Articles.	Value of Exports.		
	1879.	1884.	1889.
	£	£	£
Bark	14,999	21,807	45,666
Hay, straw, and chaff	15,695	194,393	129,390
Timber	47,616	33,989	24,168
Oil of all kinds	68,414	51,272	28,800
Gold (exclusive of specie)	1,224,538	760,875	296,413
Specie—gold	1,352,883	1,249,420	1,983,913
„ silver	32,950	1,237	17,810
Antimony ore, regulus, &c.	13,176	3,796	166
Copper ore, regulus, &c.	29,158	269	1,130
Iron, &c.	76,413	57,435	38,367
Manufactures of metals	50,510	47,969	31,486
Tin, tin ore, black sand	2,299	6,668	2,684
Live stock	821,296	762,988	538,973
Hardware and ironmongery	69,750	45,944	35,325
Travellers' samples	72,390	77,502	64,006
Total	11,470,948	14,789,966	11,919,178
All other articles	983,222	1,260,499	815,556
Total exports	12,454,170	16,050,465	12,734,734

Number of cultivators.

154. The total number of farm holdings visited in the year ended 1st March 1890 was 36,497, of which 35,528 were in shires, and 969 in cities, towns, or boroughs. In the previous year the number of farms visited was 35,727, the increase being thus 770.

Land under tillage.

155. The extent of land returned as under cultivation amounted to 2,627,262 acres, as against 2,564,742 acres in 1888–89. The increase shown by the figures was therefore 62,520 acres.

Area cultivated per head of population.

156. The average area returned as in cultivation to each person in the Colony was about 2⅓ acres in the year under review as against nearly 2½ acres five years previously, and 2 acres 10 years previously. The exact proportions at the three periods were as follow :—

Average Area cultivated to each Person in the Colony.

	Acres.
1879–80	2·01
1884–85	2·46
1889–90	2·35

Land under principal crops.

157. The principal crops grown in Victoria are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, hay, and green forage. In 1889–90 the area under wheat was less by 38,500 acres than in 1888–89, also less

by 58,000 acres than in 1887–8, but was larger than in any previous year; the area under oats was larger by 39,000 acres, and that under barley larger by over 7,000 acres than in 1888–9, and both were also larger than in any previous year; the area under potatoes, although larger than in 1888–9 by 4,000 acres, was exceeded in 1887–8 and in 1886–7; that under hay was larger by 40,000 acres than that in 1888–9, and was also larger than in any other year; the area returned under green forage was smaller by 37,000 acres than that in 1888–9, and was also less than that returned in any previous year since 1871–2. The large falling off since 1886–7 is accounted for by the fact that in the last three years the collectors have been instructed not to visit holdings on which there was no other cultivated land than that laid down under permanent artificial grass, which is included under the head of green forage. The following table shows the extent of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons:—

Land under Principal Crops, 1889 *and* 1890.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1889 - - -	1,217,191	197,518	83,483	43,074	411,332	192,515
1890 - - -	1,178,735	236,496	90,724	47,139	451,546	155,596
Increase -	—	38,978	7,241	4,065	40,214	—
Decrease -	38,456	—	—	—	—	36,919

158. As was naturally to be expected from the break up of the drought which prevailed in 1888–9, a large increase occurred in 1889–90 in the gross yield of all the principal crops. Thus the yield of wheat and oats each increased by nearly 3,000,000 bushels, the yield of the latter being more than twice as large as in the previous year; the yield of hay was also more than doubled; whilst that of barley increased by 30 per cent., and that of potatoes by 20 per cent. The wheat crop in 1889–90, 11,500,000 bushels, was the fourth largest ever raised in the Colony; still it was 3,000,000 bushels below the crop produced in 1883–4. The gross yield of oats, barley, and hay were much larger in the year under review than in any previous one, but that of potatoes was exceeded in six other years.

Produce of principal crops.

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The following is a statement of the gross produce of each of the principal crops in 1888–9 and 1889–90 :—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1889 *and* 1890.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1889 - - -	8,647,709	2,803,800	1,131,427	131,149	308,117
1890 - - -	11,495,720	5,644,867	1,831,132	157,104	666,385
Increase -	2,848,011	2,841,067	699,705	25,955	358,268

Yield of principal crops, 1872 to 1890.

159. In the past season, over the Colony as a whole, the acreable yield of wheat and potatoes was below, but that of the other crops was above, the average; the yield per acre of wheat was exceeded in all but six of the 18 other years named in the following table; but that of oats was higher than in any of those years except four, and that of oats was higher than in any previous year :—

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1872 *to* 1890.

Year ended March—	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1872 - - -	13·45	18·76	20·00	3·22	1·40
1873 - - -	16·51	19·55	20·86	3·45	1·32
1874 - - -	13·58	15·69	19·84	2·86	1·27
1875 - - -	14·57	18·46	21·01	3·53	1·32
1876 - - -	15·49	21·92	22·20	3·37	1·33
1877 - - -	13·15	19·91	21·18	3·31	1·22
1878 - - -	12·41	19·39	19·81	3·11	1·17
1879 - - -	8·76	17·60	18·24	2·71	1·21
1880 - - -	13·2[illegible]	24·00	24·67	4·04	1·45
1881 - - -	9·95	17·62	15·57	2·81	1·20
1882 - - -	9·40	24·57	19·07	3·43	1·13
1883 - - -	9·03	26·17	17·35	3·78	1·06
1884 - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	4·01	1·43
1885 - - -	9·52	23·40	17·38	4·16	1·09
1886 - - -	8·99	21·72	17·58	3·83	1·05
1887 - - -	11·49	22·91	22·36	3·41	1·09
1888 - - -	10·81	22·92	23·34	4·11	1·41
1889 - - -	7·10	14·20	13·55	3·04	·75
1890 - - -	9·75	23·87	20·18	3·33	1·48
Mean - -	11·65	20·93	19·84	3·45	1·23

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Live stock, 1881 and 1890.

160. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the census of 1881, and since that time the figures have been brought on by estimates furnished by the municipal authorities. The following are the census numbers, and the numbers in March, 1890, as derived from the municipal estimates alluded to:—

Live Stock, 1881 *and* 1890.

Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
3rd April 1881 (enumerated).	275,516	329,198	957,069	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936
March 1890 (estimated).	329,335	368,047	1,026,162	1,394,209	10,882,231	249,673
Increase -	53,819	38,849	69,093	107,942	521,946	7,737

Goats, asses, and mules.

161. Besides the live stock returned at the census, as shown in the table, 68,426 goats, 135 asses, and 78 mules were then enumerated. No attempt has been made to bring these numbers on to any later period.

Estimates not quite reliable.

162. The estimates for 1890, as compared with the numbers returned at the census, show an increase in all kinds of stock. Too much reliance, however, must not be placed on any statement of the numbers of live stock, except such as is derived from the returns of a general census.

Stock per square mile.

163. Speaking roughly, there are now in Victoria 4 horses, 16 head of cattle, 126 sheep, and 3 pigs, or taking the different kinds together, 145 head of stock of these descriptions, large and small, to the square smile.

Manufactories, works, &c. in Victoria and New South Wales.

164. According to the official returns, the manufactories and works (including stone quarries) in Victoria exceed those in New South Wales by 309, and the hands employed are also more numerous by 13,275. The number of works and hands employed therein in the two Colonies are placed side by side in the following table :—

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Manufactories, Works, &c., in Victoria and New South Wales, 1890.

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
BOOKS AND STATIONERY.				
Manufacturing stationers, including rubber-stamp makers.	12	26	1,044	658
Printing and lithographic printing establishments, including paper bag and box makers.	161	180	4,219	3,78
Photo-lithographic works	1	2	19	29
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, &c.				
Organ builders	3	—	37	—
Pianoforte makers	4	—	14	—
Musical instrument and toy makers	—	—	—	—
CARVING, ENGRAVING, &c.				
Wood carving, turnery works	19	—	76	—
Die sinkers, engravers	5	7	66	36
PHILOSOPHICAL INSTRUMENTS, &c.				
Philosophical and surgical instrument makers	12	10	111	61
ARMS, AMMUNITION, &c.				
Blasting powder, dynamite, and fuze makers	7	—	87	—
Shot manufacturers	2	—	5	—
MACHINES, TOOLS, AND IMPLEMENTS.				
Agricultural implement makers	72	22	1,006	187
Domestic implement manufactories	6	—	33	—
Engine and machine makers, iron and brass founders.	216	166	8,732	5,765
Sheet, galvanized iron, tin, lead, zinc, pewter, type works.	62	98	767	899
Nail manufacturers	3	—	23	—
Cutlery tool makers	10	—	60	—
Pattern makers	5	—	23	—
CARRIAGES AND HARNESS.				
Carriage lamp, &c. manufactories	3	—	20	—
Coach, waggon, perambulator builders	214	218	2,998	1,948
Saddle, saddle tree, whip makers	80	67	633	527

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
SHIPS AND BOATS.				
Ship, boat builders, block makers	9	35	41	714
Graving docks, patent slips, &c.	8	10	174	413
HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.				
Architectural modellers, &c.	18	8	120	64
Lime and cement works	36	18	358	177
Venetian blind makers	9	8	117	44
Enamelled mantelpiece makers	4	—	54	—
FURNITURE.				
Bedding manufacturers	28	15	331	191
Furniture, cabinet works	84	87	1,676	1,103
Picture frame makers	10	9	63	38
Gasalier factories	—	—	—	—
Earth closet makers	3	—	36	—
Iron safe makers	2	—	26	—
Looking glass makers	4	—	36	—
CHEMICALS.				
Chemical works	11	7*	188	96
Dye works	8	7	66	41
Ink, printing ink, blacking, blue, washing powder, baking powder manufactories.	12	8	247	64
Essential oil factories	11	—	70	—
Paint, varnish, japanning works	3	2	16	12
Salt works	7	—	60	—
TEXTILE FABRICS AND DRESS.				
Woollen mills	7	5	810	172
Boot factories	98	59	3,819	2,420
Clothing factories	90	30	5,068	2,745
Fur manufactories	8	2	57	12
Hat, cap factories	19	14	482	106
Oil skin, waterproof clothing makers	5	3	112	58
Umbrella, parasol makers	9	1	132	5
Hosiery manufacturers	3	—	78	—

* Including 1 poudrette and ammonia factory.

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Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
FIBROUS MATERIALS.				
Rope, twine, mat, bag, sack makers	12	7	288	118
Sail, tent, tarpaulin makers	9	16	95	98
ANIMAL FOOD.				
Meat, fish, curing, preserving works	24	13	295	355
Butter and cheese factories (steam)	89	74	163	503
" " " (hand or other power).	*	160	*	836
VEGETABLE FOOD.				
Maizena, oatmeal, starch, macaroni makers, rice dressers, &c.	4	2	152	24
Biscuit manufactories	10	6	671	375
Confectionery works	15	21	381	497
Flour mills	107	86	807	588
Fruit preserving, jam, pickle, sauce, condiment, vinegar works.	18	9	406	347
DRINKS AND STIMULANTS.				
Aërated waters, liqueur, cordial works	160	144	1,183	1,099
Breweries	70	67†	1,252	820
Distilleries	6	2	93	13
Coffee, chocolate, mustard, spice works	12	6	127	154
Sugar refineries	3	1	260	230
Sugar (raw) works	—	40	—	2,194
Tobacco, cigars, snuff manufacturers	16	10	840	621
Malthouses	18	—	123	—
ANIMAL MATTERS.				
Boiling down, tallow melting, glue making works.	17	17	105	144
Bone mills, bone manure works	13	6	97	86
Brush, broom factories	4	4	80	16
Curled hair, flock manufactories	11	4	181	32
Portmanteau, trunk makers	8	2	37	12
Leather belting, morocco, fancy leather, catgut factories.	8	2	56	8
Soap, candle works	33	30	399	250
Tanneries, fellmongeries, woolwashing works	137	152	1,576	2,242

* In Victoria a large quantity of cheese and butter is made on dairy farms, which are not returned as factories. Some of these have steam engines, and use cream separators and other machinery. It was ascertained that in 1890 as many as 14,112 hands were employed in such establishments exclusively on dairy work.

† Including bottling works.

Description of Manufactory, Work, &c.	Number of Establishments.		Hands Employed.	
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	New South Wales.
VEGETABLE MATTERS.				
Bark mills	3	2	18	9
Basket makers	12	70	74	72
Broom (millet) factories	2	2	38	26
Chaff cutting, corn crushing works	212	100	940	446
Cooperage works	5	10	186	150
Fancy box, hat box manufactories	2	1	201	66
Paper manufactories	326	392	6,213	4,372
Saw mills, moulding, joinery, packing case, cork cutting works.	7	7	112	86
COAL AND LIGHTING.				
Electric light works	3	7	23	32
Gas, coke works	30	36	857	1,131
Kerosene, oil works	—	2	—	251
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS.				
Stone quarries, stone crushing, dressing works, asphalt, pavement works.	172	82	1,766	993
Brickyards, potteries	233	228	3,243	2,134
Glass works	9	7	256	108
Stone, marble—sawing, polishing, monumental works.	53	37	676	259
Artificial stone, asbestos, cement, tile, filter works.	4	—	22	—
WATER.				
Ice manufactories, refrigerating works	5	8	25	157
GOLD, SILVER, AND PRECIOUS STONES.				
Goldsmiths, jewellers, gold beaters, electro-platers, mother-of-pearl workers.	29	35	416	200
Mint	1	1	51	28
METALS OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER.				
Smelting, pyrites works	5	21	69	1,276
Wire working establishments	13	8	128	106
Other works	—	4	—	28
Total	3,308	2,999	59,181	45,906

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Gold raised, 1888 and 1889.

165. The gold raised in Victoria in 1889 was 614,839 ozs., which is less than the quantity obtained in 1888 by 10,187 ozs., representing, at 4*l.* per oz., a decreased value of 40,700*l.* The following are the figures for the two years:—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1888 *and* 1889.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
1888 - - -	625,026	2,500,104
1889 - - -	614,839	2,459,356
Decrease - -	10,187	40,742

Gold raised, 1851 to 1889.

166. Carrying on to the end of 1889 the calculations given in previous years, the following may be estimated as the total quantity and value of the gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery about the middle of 1851. The figures give an average per annum during the whole period of about 1,442,000 ozs., which is about two and a third times the quantity raised in 1889:—

Estimated Total Quantity and Value of Gold raised in Victoria, 1851 *to* 1889.

Gold raised in Victoria.	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
Prior to 1889 - -	55,635,959	222,543,836
During 1889 - -	614,839	2,459,356
Total - -	56,250,798	225,003,192

167. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1889, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

Wages in Melbourne, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Description of Labour.	1879.	1884.	1889.
1.—Domestic Servants.			
Males.			
Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners - per week, with board and lodging	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Butlers - - - - „	20*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females.			
Cooks - - - per annum, with board and lodging	35*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Laundresses - - - „	30*l.*	35*l.* to 52*l.*	40*l.* to 52*l.*
Housemaids - - - „	25*l.* to 35*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Nursemaids - - - „	25*l.* to 35*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
General servants - - „	30*l.* to 35*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Girls - - - per week, with board and lodging	7*s.* to 10*s.*	7*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.*
2.—Hotel Servants.			
Males.			
Barmen - - - per week, with board and lodging	20*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Waiters - - - - „	25*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Boots - - - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Ostlers - - - - „	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Cooks - - - - „	25*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females.			
Barmaids - - per week, with board and lodging	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Waitresses - - - „	12*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Housemaids - - per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l*	30*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks - - - - „	50*l.* to 80*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*
3.—Farm Servants.			
Males.			
Ploughmen - - per week, and found	20*s.* to 21*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Farm labourers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Milkmen for dairies - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*

Description of Labour.		1879.	1884.	1889.
3.—FARM SERVANTS—*cont.*				
***Males*—cont.**				
Cheesemakers	per week, and found	—	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Reapers*	per acre, and found	7*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mowers*	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Threshers*	per bushel, and found	6*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*
Cooks	per annum, and found	50*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females.				
Dairymaids	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Cooks	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
General servants	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Hop-pickers	per bushel	—	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*
Maize-pickers	per bag	—	6*d.*	6*d.*
Married couples (generally useful)	per annum, with board and lodging	60*l.* to 70*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	70*l.* to 90*l.*
4.—STATION SERVANTS.				
Males.				
Boundary riders	per annum, with rations	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*
Shepherds	„	40*l.* to 50*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*
Stockmen	„	40*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 75*l.*	50*l.* to 75*l.*
Hutkeepers	„	26*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks	„	40*l.* to 50*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Labourers	per week, with rations	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Drovers	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Sheepwashers	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	15*s.*	12*s.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 16*s.*
Females.				
Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	45*l.* to 55*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*
General servants	„	18*l.* to 40*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 45*l.*
Married couples	per annum, with rations	50*l.* to 80*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	70*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—WORKERS IN BOOKS, &c.				
Printers—				
Compositors	per 1,000	1*s.*	1*s.* 1*d.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Machinists	per week	—	—	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Lithographers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Binders	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Paper rulers	„	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*

* Of late years the greater portion of the reaping, mowing, and threshing has been done by machinery.

Description of Labour.		1879.	1884.	1889.
6.—In Watches, Jewellery, and Precious Metals.				
Watchmakers	per week	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Manufacturing jewellers	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.*
Enamellers	„	3*l.* to 8*l.*	6*l.* to 8*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
7.—In Metals other than Gold and Silver.				
Blacksmiths	per day	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Farriers, firemen	per week	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*
„ floormen	„	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	35*s.* to 40*s.*
Hammermen	per day	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Turners	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 13*s.*	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	„	12*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Riveters	„	9*s.* to 11*s.*	9*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Moulders	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.*
Galvanizers	„	3*l.*	3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	„	3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.*
8.—In Carriages and Harness.				
Smiths	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Bodymakers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Wheelers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Painters	per day	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Trimmers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vycemen	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Saddlers	„	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
9.—Workers in Ships and Boats.				
Sailors—				
Sailing vessels	per month, and found	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*l.* to 5*l.*
Steamships	„	6*l.*	6*l.*	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day	13*s.*	12*s.* to 13*s.*	13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	per hour	1*s.*	1*s.*	1*s.*
10.—In Houses and Buildings.				
Masons	per day	10*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 13*s.*
Bricklayers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Slaters	„	10*s.*	12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Carpenters	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Painters and glaziers	„	9*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.*

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Description of Labour.		1879.	1884.	1889.
11.—In Furniture, &c.				
Cabinetmakers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Upholsterers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
Polishers	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Coopers	per day	10*s.*	10*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—In Dress.				
Tailors	per hour	10*d.* to 1*s.*	10*d.*	10*d.*
„	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
„ in factories	„	2*l.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Mantlemakers	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Milliners—				
First class	„	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Second class	„	35*s.*	35*s.*	1*l.* to 2*l.*
Dressmakers	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 35*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 35*s.*	10*s.* to 20*s.*
Bootmakers	riveting children's boots, per pair	6*d.*	6*d.*	6*d.*
„	riveting boys' boots, per pair	10*d.*	10*d.*	10*d.*
„	riveting women's boots, per pair	1*s.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
„	riveting men's boots, per pair	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*
„	making wellingtons to order	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.*
„	making elastics to orders	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*
„ Machinists	per week	15*s.* to 35*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*
Hatters—				
Bodymakers	per dozen	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 22*s.*	12*s.* to 22*s.*
Finishers	„	12*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*	10*s.* to 24*s.*
Shapers	„	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*
Crown sewers	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Trimmers	„	6*s.*	6*s.*	6*s.* to 9*s.*
Clothing Factories—				
Tailoresses	per week	20*s.* to 35*s.*	12*s.* 6*d* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Pressers	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Shirtmakers	„	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists	„	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
13.—In Food and Drink.				
Bakers—				
Foremen	per week	3*l.*	3*l.*	3*l.*
Second hands	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 2*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*

Description of Labour.		1879.	1884.	1889.
13.—In Food and Drink—*cont.*				
Butchers— Shopmen	per week	35*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*
Slaughtermen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys	per week, with board	12*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Small-goods men	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*
Maltsters	per week	—	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.*
14.—In Animal Substances.				
Curriers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers	„	36*s.* to 60*s.*	36*s.* to 60*s.*	36*s.* to 50*s.*
15.—In Stone, Clay, &c.				
Brickmakers	per 1,000	18*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*
Navvies	per day	6*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Quarrymen	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
16.—In Mines.				
General managers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.*
Legal „	„	10*s.* to 5*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*
Mining „	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.*	2*l.* to 7*l.*
Engineers	„	2*l.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Engine-drivers	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pitmen	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Blacksmiths	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Carpenters	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 8*s.* to 3*l.* 12*s.*
Foremen of shift	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Miners	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Surfacemen (labourers)	„	1*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	15*s.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*	15*s.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*
Chinese	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	12*s.* to 36*s.*	12*s.* to 2*l.*

168. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows at the same three periods. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c. is naturally somewhat higher, and that

Prices.

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of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne :—

Prices in Melbourne, 1879, 1884, *and* 1889.

Articles.		1879.	1884.	1889.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.				
Wheat	per bushel	4*s.* d. to 6*s.* 1*d.*	3*s.* 7½*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 9*d.*
Barley	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.*	3*s.* 4*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*
Oats	„	2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 9*d.*	2*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.*
Maize	„	2*s.* 10*d.* to 5*s.* 2*d.*	4*s.* 4*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*
Bran	„	11½*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*	10½*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	8½*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Hay	per ton	3*l.* to 6*l.* 15*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	3*l.* to 8*l.*
Flour, first quality	„	9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.* 15*s.*	8*l.* to 10*l.*	10*l.* to 13*l.* 15*s.*
Bread	per 4 lb. loaf	6*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 6½*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*
GRAZING PRODUCE.				
Horses— Draught	each	20*l.* to 45*l.*	21*l.* to 46*l.*	10*l.* to 43*l.*
Saddle and harness	„	5*l.* to 52*l.*	10*l.* to 28*l.*	6*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.*
Cattle— Fat	„	4*l.* 10*s.* to 11*l.* 10*s.*	6*l.* to 19*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 16*l.* 15*s.*
Milch cows	„	5*l.* to 8*l.* 15*s.*	5*l.* to 10*l.*	3*l.* to 15*l.*
Sheep, fat	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 22*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*
Lambs, fat	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 13*s.*	4*s.* to 14*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*
Butchers' meat— Beef, retail	per lb.	2*d.* to 7*d.*	3*d.* to 8*d.*	3*d.* to 10*d.*
Mutton „	„	1½*d.* to 4*d.*	2*d.* to 5*d.*	1½*d.* to 5*d.*
Veal „	„	4*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*
Pork „	„	6*d.* to 9*d.*	6*d* to 10*d.*	6*d.* to 8*d.*
Lamb „	per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
DAIRY PRODUCE.				
Butter	per lb.	8*d.* to 2*s.* 2*d.*	8*d.* to 2*s.*	6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Cheese	„	7*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*
Milk	per quart	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.				
Geese	per couple	7*s.* to 10*s.*	6*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Ducks	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*
Fowls	„	4*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*
Rabbits	„	1*s.*	9*d.* to 2*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Pigeons	„	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Turkeys	each	6*s.* to 15*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* to 19*s.*
Sucking pigs	„	8*s.* to 10*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*

Articles.		1879.	1884.	1889.
FARM-YARD PRODUCE—*cont.*				
Bacon	per lb.	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*
Ham	„	11*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*	11*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.				
Potatoes—Wholesale	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 7*s.* to 6*l.* 15*s.*	3*l.* to 15*l.* 10*s.*
Retail	per cwt.	4*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.*	3*s.* to 18*s.*
Onions, dried	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.*	6*s.* to 37*s.* 4*d.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Turnips	„	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 2*s.*
Radishes	„	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Cabbages	per doz.	6*d.* to 6*s.*	6*d.* to 3*s.*	6*d.* to 7*s.*
Cauliflowers	„	6*d.* to 4*s.*	6*d.* to 4*s.*	6*d.* to 10*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	3*d.* to 1*s.*	3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Green peas	per lb.	1*d.* to 5*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*	1*d.* to 2½*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea	per lb.	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.*
Coffee	„	10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	7*d.* to 10*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*
Sugar	„	3*d.* to 5*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*
Rice	„	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*
Tobacco	„	3*s.* 4*d.* to 6*s.*	3*s.* to 6*s.*	3*s.* to 6*s.*
Soap Colonial	„	2*d.* to 3½*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*
Candles—Sperm	„	6½*d.* to 1*s.* 3½*d.*	7½*d.* to 10½*d.*	6*d.* to 9*d.*
Salt	„	1*d.*	1*d.*	—
Coals	per ton	29*s.* to 35*s.*	25*s.* to 36*s.*	24*s.* to 30*s.*
Firewood	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* 6*d.* to 13*s.* 6*d.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
WINES, SPIRITS, &c.				
Ale	per doz.	8*s.* to 11*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Porter	„	7*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy	per gall.	21*s.* to 33*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Rum	„	15*s.* to 13*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Whisky	„	17*s.* 6*d.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*
Geneva	per case 15 bottles	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*
Port wine	per doz.	35*s.* to 70*s.*	33*s.* to 72*s.*	—
Sherry	„	35*s.* to 70*s.*	35*s.* to 75*s.*	—
Claret	„	30*s.* to 65*s.*	32*s.* 6*d.* to 70*s.*	15*s.* to 87*s.*
Champagne	„	75*s.* to 100*s.*	70*s.* to 105*s.*	33*s.* to 95*s.*
Colonial wine	„	12*s.* to 28*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*

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169. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned, in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1889–90."

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

* This is an official publication by the Government Statist, published annually, and may be obtained from the Government printer, Melbourne, the Agent General of Victoria, 8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, or Trübner & Co., 57 and 59, Ludgate Hill, London.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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No. 36.

VICTORIA.

DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS FOR 1890.

(For Digest for 1889, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 4.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
1	British Honduras	1889
2	Mauritius	"
3	British Bechuanaland	1889–90
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
13	Gibraltar	"
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 36.

VICTORIA.

(For Digest for 1889, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 4.)

The Earl of HOPETOUN to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Melbourne,
December 22, 1891

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of Victoria for the year 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOPETOUN.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1890, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

Position and boundaries of Victoria.

1. Victoria, so named after Her Most Gracious Majesty, although the smallest, is probably the richest and most prosperous as it is still the most populous* of the various Colonies situated on the Australian continent, of which it occupies the south-eastern portion. It is bounded on the north and north-east by the Colony of New South Wales, from which it is separated by the River Murray, and by a right line running in a south-easterly direction from a place near the head waters of that stream, called the Springs, on Forest Hill, to Cape Howe. On the west it is bounded by South Australia, the dividing line being about 242 geographical miles in length, approximating to the position of the 141st meridian of east longitude, and extending from the River Murray to the sea. On the south and south-east its shores are washed by the Southern Ocean, Bass's Straits, and the Pacific Ocean. It lies between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude, and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. Its extreme length from east to west is about 420, its greatest breadth about 250, and its extent of coast-line nearly 600 geographical miles.

Executive authority.

2. The executive power is in the hands of a Governor appointed by the Crown, who acts under the advice of a responsible ministry, consisting of 10 members.

* At the census of 1891, the total population of Victoria was returned as 1,140,405, that of New South Wales as 1,134,207; these figures are final.

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Parliament of Victoria.

3. The legislative authority is vested in two houses of Parliament, viz., the Upper House or Legislative Council, consisting of 48 members returned in 14 provinces, each member being elected for six years, and the Lower House or Legislative Assembly, which consists of 95 members, elected for three years (unless dissolved sooner by the Governor), returned in 84 districts or electorates. The qualification for the Upper House is as follows:—For members, the possession of freehold property of an annual value of 100*l.*; for electors, the possession of freehold property rated in some municipal district at not less than 10*l.* per annum or occupation of leasehold property of not less than 25*l.* annual rating. Graduates of universities within the British dominions, barristers, and solicitors, legally qualified medical practitioners, officiating ministers of religion, certificated schoolmasters, matriculated students in the Melbourne University, and officers in the Army and Navy, when not on active service, also have votes for the Legislative Council. There is no property qualification for members of the Lower House, and every male of 21 years of age or upwards, untainted by crime, is allowed a vote.

Persons incapable of becoming members.

4. Judges; ministers of religion; persons holding any office or place of profit under the Crown, or employed in the public service for salary, wages, or emolument (except responsible Ministers); persons who are interested in any bargains or contracts entered into on behalf of Her Majesty; uncertificated bankrupts and insolvents; and persons attainted of treason, or convicted of any felony or infamous offence within any part of Her Majesty's dominions, are incapable of being elected or continuing to be members of either House of Parliament, neither can the same person be a member of the two Houses at the same time.

Salaries of Ministers.

5. The Constitution Act provides for the sum of 14,000*l.* being set aside annually for the payment of nine Ministers, of whom not more than eight may be members of the Assembly, but at least four must be members of the Assembly or Council, whilst a subsequent Act provides for the appointment of an additional Minister, at a salary of 1,500*l.* per annum.

Members may not accept offices of profit.

6. No person who is a member of either House of Parliament or has not ceased to be one for a period of six months may accept any office or place of profit under the Crown, except the office of responsible Minister, judge of the Supreme Court, President or Chairman of Committee of the Legislative Council, or Speaker or Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly. Should he do so he is liable to forfeit the sum of 50*l.* for every week he may hold such office or place, together with full costs of suit to any person who may sue for the same.

Payment of members.

7. Members of the Legislative Council receive no payment for their attendance in Parliament, but every member of the Legislative Assembly, who is not in receipt of any official salary or annual payment from the State, is entitled to receive reimbursement of his expenses in relation to his attendance in the discharge of his Parliamentary duties at the rate of 300*l.* per annum out of the Consolidated Revenue.

8. The names of ratepayers in municipal districts are placed on the Rolls of the Legislative Assembly, also on those of the Legislative Council, if qualified, without action on their part, but non-ratepayers, or property holders residing in another electorate and not enrolled as ratepayers, wishing to vote for either House of Parliament must take out "Electors' Rights," for which they are required to pay the sum of sixpence. These "rights" must be renewed every three years. Electors' rights.

9. Persons paying rates in several provinces or electoral districts may vote in all such at the same election, but no one may vote more than once in the same province or electoral district, although he may have several properties rated independently therein. Plural voting.

10. By the Police Franchise Act, 1888 (52 Vict., No. 969), assented to on the 20th November 1888, members of the police force were for the first time allowed to vote at elections of members of either House of Parliament. Franchise extended to police.

11. Foreigners who are not naturalised or denizen subjects of Her Majesty, and have not resided in Victoria for 12 months previous to the 1st January or 1st July of any year, are not qualified to vote at elections of members of either House of Parliament. Foreigners must be naturalised.

12. Males under 21 years of age and females of any age are not qualified to be returned as members of, or to vote at elections for, either House of Parliament. No one can be elected for the Upper House until he is of the full age of 30 years. Males must be of age. Females not qualified.

13. Of the electoral districts for the Legislative Assembly 11 are represented by two members each, and 73 by one member each. Six of the electoral provinces for the Council are represented by four members each, and eight by three members each. Electors on the rolls.

The number of electors on the rolls of both Houses of the Legislature in 1888–90 and 1889–91 is shown in the following table :—

Electors on the Rolls, 1890 *and* 1891.

Description of Roll.	Legislative Council.		Legislative Assembly.	
	1889–90.	1890–91.	1889–90.	1890–91.
Ratepayers' roll -	150,682	156,170	218,960	229,107
General roll - -	1,112	724	35,902	29,469
Total - -	151,803	156,894	254,862	258,576

14. Municipal or local government is almost universal throughout Victoria, all but about one hundredth part of its whole area Municipal government.

VICTORIA.

being divided into urban or rural municipalities. The former are called cities, towns, and boroughs, and the latter shires. They are regulated under the Local Government Act (54 Vict., No. 1,112), each municipality being a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and capable of suing and being sued, and of purchasing, holding, and alienating land. The cities, towns, and boroughs now number 60 and the shires 134. They have power to levy rates, and are also subsidised by the State. Their peculiar functions are to make, maintain, and control all streets, roads, bridges, ferries, culverts, watercourses, and jetties within their respective boundaries; also to regulate under proper bye-laws the markets, pounds, abattoirs, baths, places of recreation, charitable institutions, and the arrangements for sewerage, lighting, water supply, prevention of fire, and carrying on of noxious trades.

Incorporating Melbourne and Geelong.

15. Melbourne and Geelong, the latter of which was for many years the place of second importance in the Colony, having been incorporated under special statutes prior to the establishment of municipal government on a large scale throughout the Colony, are not subject to the Local Government Acts except in a few comparatively unimportant particulars. Melbourne was incorporated as a town by Act 6 Vict., No. 7, which was assented to on the 12th August 1842, and was afterwards ordained a city by Royal Letters Patent, dated at Westminster on the 25th June 1847, and gazetted in Sydney on the 5th February 1848. Geelong was incorporated as a town on the 12th October 1849 under Act 13 Vict., No. 40.

Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.

16. An Act to provide for the better management of the Metropolis and for the creation of a Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to give effect thereto, was passed on the 20th December 1890, and, as to the election of members, the date of holding the first meeting, and other preliminary matters, came into immediate operation, but the other provisions were not to come into force until the day of the first meeting of the board. The Act is divided into seven parts, dealing respectively with the board's constitution; water supply, sewerage, and drainage; metropolitan general fund and rating; borrowing powers; acquisition of land; and miscellaneous. The board is to be a body corporate, consisting of a chairman elected by the board, and of 39 members elected by the Councils of the City of Melbourne and the 23 surrounding municipalities, all within a radius of 10 miles from the General Post Office; but such members can only retain their seats on the board so long as they continue to be members of their respective municipal councils. Seven members are allotted to the municipality of Melbourne, four to South Melbourne, three to Prahan, two each to four other municipalities, and one member each to the remaining 17. After the first annual election, each member will be elected for three years, whilst the terms of membership of the first elected members are so arranged that after the year 1894 one third of the members for the

whole district will retire annually. The chairman, whose salary is to be fixed by the board between the limits of 1,500*l.* and 2,000*l.* per annum, will hold office for a period of four years, but is eligible for re-election. The whole of the metropolitan water supply and sewerage works are vested in the board, embracing all lands, reservoirs, tramways, mains, buildings, plant and machinery, &c., in connexion with the supply of water to the inhabitants of the metropolis, and all sewers and drains within the metropolis or works in connexion therewith; also all the bed soil and banks of the River Yarra, and all other public rivers, creeks and water-courses within the metropolis, except so much thereof as is already vested in the Melbourne Harbour Trust and Railway Commissioners. The liability for that portion of the outstanding public debt which was incurred for the construction of the Melbourne waterworks, amounting to 2,139,934*l.*, is to be transferred to the board, which is to be held liable to the Treasurer of Victoria for the due payment of principal and interest. The revenue of the board is to be derived chiefly from rates levied on all rateable property in the district, the annual rate not to exceed 1*s.* in the pound on the net annual value of such property, for the due collection and payment of which the various municipal councils are held responsible. The board is empowered, in addition to loans raised by the Government, to borrow money by the issue of debentures so that the total amount outstanding at any one time shall not exceed 5,000,000*l.*; it is also allowed a bank over-draft on current account not exceeding 100,000*l.* All officers employed at the passing of the Act in the Melbourne Sewerage and Water Supply Department are placed under the control of the board, and become thenceforth officers thereof, subject to the observance of all existing or accruing rights and privileges.

17. Subjoined is a list of the Governors and Acting Governors of Victoria, with the dates of their assumption of and retirement from office:— Governors.

Governors of Victoria.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Charles Joseph La Trobe -	30th September, 1839*	
	15th July, 1851 -	5th May, 1854.
John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster (Acting) - - -	8th May, 1854 -	22nd June, 1854.
Sir Charles Hotham, K.C.B. -	22nd June, 1854 -	31st December, 1855.
Major-General Edward Macarthur (Acting) - - -	1st January, 1856 -	26th December, 1856.
Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B. - -	26th December, 1856	10th September, 1863.
Sir Charles Henry Darling, K.C.B.	11th September, 1863	7th May, 1866.

* At the first of these dates Mr. La Trobe assumed the office of Superintendent of Port Phillip; at the second he became Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria.

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Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Brigadier-General George Jackson Carey, C.B. (Acting) - -	7th May, 1866 -	15th August, 1866.
The Hon. Sir John Henry Thomas Manners Sutton, K.C.B.* -	15th August, 1866 -	2nd March, 1873.
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting) - - -	3rd March, 1873 -	19th March, 1873.
Sir George Ferguson Bowen, G.C.M.G. - - -	31st March, 1873 -	22nd February, 1879.
Sir Redmond Barry, Kt. (Acting) -	3rd January, 1875 -	10th January, 1875.
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting) - - -	11th January, 1875 -	14th January, 1876.
The Most Hon. George Augustus Constantine Phipps, Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., P.C. -	27th February, 1879	18th April, 1884.
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting) - - -	18th April, 1884 -	15th July 1884.
Sir Henry Brougham Loch, G.C.M.G., K.C.B. - -	15th July, 1884 -	15th November, 1889.
Sir William Foster Stawell, K.C.M.G. (Lieutenant-Governor)† - -	6th November, 1886	12th March, 1889.
Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, G.C.M.G. (Acting)	9th March, 1889 -	17th October, 1889.
	16th November, 1889	27th November, 1889.
The Right Hon. John Adrian Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G. - - -	28th November 1889	Still in Office.

Note.—Captain William Lonsdale, formerly of the 4th Regiment, was appointed Police Magistrate of the District of Port Phillip on the 9th September 1836 and assumed office on the 29th of the same month. In that capacity he was in charge of the district until the assumption of office as superintendent by Mr. C. J. La Trobe. Subsequently, Captain Lonsdale acted as superintendent during the temporary absence of Mr. C. J. La Trobe, who was called on to administer the Government of Tasmania from 13th October 1846, to the 25th January 1847.

Duration of Governorships.

18. Since Victoria has been an independent Colony, the average time during which the Governors of Victoria, prior to Lord Hopetoun, not including Acting Governors, have held office, has been about four years and seven months.

Interregna in Victoria.

19. During the 12 days between the 19th and the 31st March 1873, the former being the day on which Sir W. F. Stawell left the Colony, and the latter that on which Sir G. F. Bowen arrived, also during the five days between the 22nd and 27th February 1879, the former being the day on which Sir G. F. Bowen left, and the latter that on which Lord Normanby arrived, there was neither governor nor acting governor in Victoria.

Ministries.

20. Since the inauguration of responsible government, 24 ministries have held office in Victoria.

* Succeeded to the title of Viscount Canterbury, December, 1869.

† Date of appointment. Sir W. F. Stawell never acted after his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor. He died on the date given in the next column. No Lieutenant-Governor has been appointed since.

21. The number of days each ministry remained in power is given in the following table :— Duration of ministries.

Duration of Ministries.

Name of Premier.	Duration of Office.	Name of Premier.	Duration of Office.
	Days.		Days.
1. William Clark Haines -	469	13. Charles Gavan Duffy -	357
2. John O'Shanassy -	49	14. James Goodall Francis -	781
3. William Clark Haines -	375	15. George Briscoe Kerferd -	372
4. John O'Shanassy - -	596	16. Graham Berry - -	74
5. William Nicholson -	396	17. Sir James McCulloch, K.C.M.G. - -	579
6. Richard Heales - -	353	18. Graham Berry - -	1,019
7. John O'Shanassy - -	590	19. James Service - -	151
8. James McCulloch - -	1,775	20. Graham Berry - -	340
9. Charles Sladen - -	66	21. Sir Bryan O'Loghlen, Bart.	607
10. James McCulloch - -	436	22. James Service - -	1,078
11. John Alexander MacPherson - -	201	23. Duncan Gillies - -	1,729
12. James McCulloch - -	436	24. James Munro - -	Still in Office.

22. By means of the figures in the last column it is ascertained that the average duration of Victorian Ministries, prior to the Ministry now in office, has been 555 days, or one year and 6¼ months. Average duration of ministries.

23. At the last 12 elections for the Legislative Council the proportion of electors who have recorded their votes in provinces where the election has been contested has rarely been much greater than half, and on six out of the 12 occasions has been less than half. The following are the proportions at each election :— Electors who voted Legislative Council.

Proportion of Voters at Elections for the Legislative Council, 1870 *to* 1890.

Year of Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Provinces who voted.	Year of Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Provinces who voted.
	Per cent.		Per cent.
1870 - -	46·65	1882 - -	55·13
1872 - -	54·07	1884 - -	56·70
1874 - -	45·99	1886 - -	48·04
1876 - -	51·16	1888 - -	51·76
1878 - -	45·61	1889 - -	47·07
1880 - -	57·18	1890 - -	47·29

24. At elections for the Legislative Assembly, close upon two-thirds of the electors have generally recorded their votes in contested districts; whereas in elections for the Legislative Council the proportion has been rarely much above half, as has been Electors who voted Legislative Assembly.

Victoria.

already shown. The following are the proportions who voted at the last 10 general elections of members of the Lower House in districts in which the election has been contested :—

Proportion of Voters at General Elections for the Legislative Assembly, 1866 to 1889.

Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted.	Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted.
	Per cent.		Per cent.
1866 - -	55·10	1880 (February) -	66·56
1868 - -	61·59	1880 (July) -	65·85
1871 - -	65·02	1883 - -	64·96
1874 - -	61·00	1886 - -	64·70
1877 - -	62·29	1889 - -	66·58

Parliaments.

25. The present is the 14th Parliament, since the inauguration of Responsible Government in Victoria. The following table shows the number of sessions in each Parliament, the dates of opening, and of closing, of dissolution, also the duration of each session and of each Parliament :—

Parliaments.

No. of Parliament.	No. of Session.	Date of Opening.	Date of Closing or of Dissolution.	Duration of Session.	Duration of Parliament.
				Days.	Days.
1	1	21st November, 1856 -	24th November, 1857 -	368	
	2	3rd December, 1857 -	4th June, 1858 - -	183	
	3	7th October, 1858 - -	24th February, 1859 -	140	
			9th August, 1859 -	—	991
2	1	13th October, 1859 -	18th September, 1860 -	341	
	2	20th November, 1860 -	3rd July, 1861 - -	225	
			11th July, 1861 - -	—	637
3	1	30th August, 1861 - -	18th June, 1862 - -	292	
	2	7th November, 1862 -	11th September, 1863 -	308	
	3	26th January, 1864 -	2nd June, 1864 - -	128	
			25th August, 1864 - -	—	1,091
4	1	28th November, 1864 -	28th November, 1865 -	366	
			11th December, 1865 -	—	378
5		12th February, 1866 -	5th April, 1866 - -	52	
	2	11th April, 1866 - -	1st June, 1866 - -	51	
	3	17th January, 1867 -	10th September, 1867 -	236	

No. of Parliament.	No. of Session.	Date of Opening.	Date of Closing or of Dissolution.	Duration of Session.	Duration of Parliament.
	4	18th September, 1867	8th November, 1867	51	
	5	25th November, 1867	25th November, 1867	1	
			30th December, 1867	—	686
6	1	13th March, 1868	29th September, 1868	200	
	2	11th February, 1869	29th December, 1869	321	
	3	15th February, 1870	15th July, 1870	150	
	4	27th October, 1870	29th December, 1870	63	
			25th January, 1871	—	1,048
7	1	25th April, 1871	23rd November, 1871	212	
	2	30th April, 1872	17th December, 1872	231	
	3	13th May, 1873	25th November, 1873	196	
			9th March, 1874	—	1,049
8	1	19th May, 1874	24th December, 1874	219	
	2	25th May, 1875	7th April, 1876	317	
	3	11th July, 1876	22nd December, 1876	164	
			25th April, 1877	—	1,072
9	1	22nd May, 1877	9th April, 1878	322	
	2	9th July, 1878	6th December, 1878	150	
	3	8th July, 1879	6th February, 1880	212	
			9th February, 1880	—	993
10	1	11th May, 1880	26th June, 1880	46	
			29th June, 1880	—	49
11	1	22nd July, 1880	2nd August, 1881	376	
	2	4th August, 1881	24th December, 1881	142	
	3	25th April, 1882	3rd February, 1883	284	926
12	1	27th February, 1883	19th April, 1883	51	
	2	3rd July, 1883	3rd November, 1883	123	
	3	10th June, 1884	12th December, 1884	185	
	4	17th June, 1885	18th December, 1885	184	
			19th February, 1886	—	1,088
13	1	16th March, 1886	16th December, 1886	275	
	2	7th June, 1887	17th December, 188.	193	
	3	19th June, 1888	21st December, 1888	135	
			11th March, 1889	—	1,091
14	1	9th April, 1889	29th November, 1889	234	
	2	21st May, 1890	20th December, 1890	213	
	3	23rd June, 1891			

26. Parliaments in Victoria have existed, on the average, for 854 days, or about two years and four months. Sessions have lasted, on the average, for 200 days, or rather more than 6½ months. Duration of Parliaments.

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Persons employed by the State.

27 According to a return prepared in 1890, the total number of persons in the service of the Victorian Government, exclusive of persons temporarily employed, or whose services are not wholly retained by the State, is about 24,800. Of these, about 10,000 are under the Public Service Board, 11,800 under the Railway Commisioners, and the bulk of the remainder are in the Police and Defence Forces, as is shown by the following figures:—

Under "Public Service Act":—		Under "Railway Commissioners Act" -	11,844
Public Service Board -	3	Police - - -	1,501
First Division -	11	Defence Forces -	588
Professional Division -	165	Residue - -	788
Clerical Division -	2,033		
Non-Clerical Division -	3,283		
Teachers - -	4,600		
Total -	10,095	Grand total -	24,816

Census of 1891.

28. A census of Victoria was taken on the 5th April 1891 that being the date on which the census was also taken in the United Kingdom, in the other Australasian Colonies, and in most other portions of the British Empire.

Population of 1891.

29. According to the Victorian census the total population of the Colony was as follows:—

Population, Census of 5th April 1891.*

Males - - - -	599,172
Females - - - -	541,233
Total -	1,140,405

Increase of population.

30. The increase of population between the census of 1881 and 1891 was 278,059, viz., 147,089 males and 130,970 females, as against an increase of 130,818, viz., 51,033 males and 79,785 females, between the censuses of 1871 and 1881, and an increase of 191,206, viz., 72,399 males and 118,807 females, between the censuses of 1861 and 1871. It will be observed that, whilst in the last intercensal period the increase of males was greater than that of females, in the two previous intercensal periods the increase of females was greater than that of males.

* The figures have not been finally checked, but it is believed they are very nearly accurate.

Rate of increase of population.

31. Between the censuses of 1881 and 1891, the rate of increase of the total population (32·2 per cent.) was much greater than that between 1871 and 1881 (17·9 per cent.), but not so great as that between 1861 and 1871 (35·4 per cent.).

Rate of increase of males.

32. The rate of increase of the male population was considerably greater in the last than in either of the two previous intercensal periods, the per-centage being 32·5 between 1881 and 1891, 12·7 between 1871 and 1881, and 22·0 between 1861 and 1871.

Rate of increase of females.

33. The rate of increase of the female population was, as in the case of the male population, greater in the last than in the middle period; but it was less than in the first period, the per-centage being 31·9 between 1881 and 1891, 24·1 between 1871 and 1881, and 56·1 between 1861 and 1871.

Births over deaths in 10 years.

34. According to the registrations, the excess of births over deaths between the censuses of 1881 and 1891 was 161,699, viz., 73,406 of males and 88,293 of females, thus, the Colony not only retained a number equivalent to the whole of this natural increase, but gained in addition 116,360 persons, viz., 73,683 males and 42,677 females, by immigration. In the previous intercensal period (1871 to 1881) the excess of registered births over registered deaths was, of males 66,923, and of females 78,980; but the Colony lost by emigration a number of males equivalent to all those born and 15,890 more, and a number of females equivalent to all born except 805, the net loss in those 10 years being thus 15,085.

Actual apparent and estimated population.

35. Between the censuses of 1881 and 1891 the excess of recorded arrivals by sea over recorded departures by sea was 183,347, viz., 126,817 of males and 56,530 of females. If the numbers, and those just quoted showing the excess of births over deaths, had been correct, and the arrivals and departures overland had balanced each other, the census would have shown a population of 1,207,392, viz., 652,306 males and 555,086 females, or 66,987, viz., 53,134 males and 13,853 females, more than it actually did. The totals may, to a certain extent, have been affected by the overland emigration, of which no account is kept, but there is no doubt that the main disturbance has arisen from the circumstance that a large number of the departures by sea are unrecorded. The defective nature of the emigration returns being known, an allowance was made for it each quarter in the estimates of population published at those periods by the Government statist, the whole allowance during the 10 years 1881–1889 being 52,131, viz., 41,333 males and 10,798 females; this reduction turned out to be insufficient, as the estimate brought on to the census day exceeded the population then enumerated by 14,856, viz., 11,801 males and 3,055 females. The following table shows the actual, apparent, and estimated population at the date of the

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ceusus of 1891, and the numbers by which the apparent and estimated exceeded the actual population :—

Actual, Apparent, and Estimated Population, 5th April 1891.*

Sex.	Population of Victoria.			Excess over Actual Population of	
	Actual.†	Apparent.‡	Estimated§.	Apparent Population.	Estimated Population.
Males - - -	599,172	652,306	610,973	53,134	11,801
Females - -	541,233	555,086	544,288	13,853	3,055
Total - -	1,140,405	1,207,392	1,155,261	66,987	14,856

Proportion of unrecorded emigrants.

36. During the period intervening between the last two censuses, the recorded departures from the Colony numbered 602,189, viz., 411,792 males and 190,397 females. Adding the unrecorded departures, as derived from the last column but one of the last table, to these numbers, and calculating the proportion of such departures to the whole, it is found that nearly 10½ per cent. of those who left the Colony in the 10 years ended with the census day 1891, viz., 11⅘ per cent. of the males, and 7⅓ per cent. of the females, passed out by sea or over the borders without their departure being officially recognised. In the 10 years 1871-81 these proportions were as follow: both sexes, 17 per cent.; males, 19 per cent.; females, 11 per cent.

Disturbance by unregistered births.

37. It should be pointed out that the number by which the apparent exceeds the actual population does not represent all who leave the Colony unobserved, as whilst, practically, all the deaths are registered, a number of the births escape registration, the population estimates being thereby disturbed in an opposite direction to that due to unrecorded departures, therefore the number of the latter must really be greater than that shown by the figures.

Actual and apparent population, 1881.

38. At the census of 1881 the actual was found to be less than the apparent population by 67,437, or 55,204 males and 12,233 females. These numbers are greater as regards the total by 450, and as regards the males by 2,070, but less as regards the females by 1,620, than the difference found to exist at the recent census.

* Figures not finally checked.

† Enumerated at the census of 1891.

‡ Made up by adding excess of recorded births over recorded deaths, and of recorded arrivals over recorded departures, between census of 1881 and 1891.

§ Made up by deducting an allowance of 41,333 males and 10,798 females, from the apparent population.

Population at end and middle of 1890.

39. Worked back from the census figures, the population of Victoria at the end of 1890 and the mean or average population of that year may be set down as follows:—

——	Population, 31st December 1890.	——	Mean Population, 1890.
Males - -	596,064	Males - -	589,310
Females - -	537,202	Females - -	529,190
Total -	1,133,266	Total -	1,118,500

Proportions of the sexes.

40. The census of 1891 shows that the sexes in Victoria have slightly diverged from equality since the previous census, the population of females to every 100 males being 90·33, as against 90·75 in 1881. In 1871 the proportion of females was 82·4, and in 1861, 64·4, to every 100 males.

Density of population.

41. The population returned at the recent census furnishes a proportion of nearly 13 (12·98) persons to the square mile, or 1,298 persons to 100 square miles. The proportion in 1881 was 9·8 persons, in 1871 8·3 persons, and in 1861 6·1 persons, to the square mile.

Urban and rural population.

42. In the following table the area of Victoria is divided into three districts the first being the metropolitan (Greater Melbourne); extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city, the second, viz., the extra-metropolitan towns, including the total space embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former) outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, viz., the extra-urban or rural, including the remaining portions of the Colony. In each of these districts the population is shown as enumerated at the recent census, the ratio of the population of each district to that of the whole Colony, and the number of persons to the square mile; also the numerical and centesimal increase during the 10 years ended with the date of the census of 1891:—

Urban and Rural Population, Census of 1891.

Districts.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Population, 5th April, 1891.*			Increase in 10 Years.	
		Total.	Proportions per Cent.	Persons to the Sq. Mile.	Number.	Per Cent.
Towns { Metropolitan - -	256	491,378	43·09	1,919	208,431	73·67
Towns { Extra-Metropolitan -	376	192,880	16·91	513	3,297	1·74
Total Urban - -	632	684,258	60·00	1,083	211,728	44·81
Extra Urban or Rural - -	87,252	456,147	40·00	5·2	66,331	17·02
Total of Victoria - -	87,884	1,140,405	100·00	13	278,059	32·24

* Subject to future revision.

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Increasing proportion of metropolitan population.

43. It will be observed that the urban exceeds the rural population by 228,000 persons, the increase of the former in 10 years being 45 per cent., whilst that of the latter was only 17 per cent. The increase in the metropolitan district much exceeded that in any of the others, its population being now equal to 43 per cent. of that of the whole Colony, as against only 33 per cent. in 1881. The following were the proportions of the metropolitan to the whole population of the Colony at the last four census periods :—

Proportion of Population of Greater Melbourne to Total Population of Victoria.

	Per cent.
1861 - - - - -	25·89
1871 - - - - -	28·87
1881 - - - - -	32·81
1891 - - - - -	43·09

Area and population of Greater Melbourne.

44. The following table shows the estimated area and the population in 1881 and 1891, of the various municipalities comprised in the metropolitan district; also the numerical and centesimal increase of the population of each municipality in the interval between the two periods, and the density of the population of each municipality at the latter period :—

Greater Melbourne: Area and Population of Sub-Districts, 1881 *and* 1891.

Municipal Sub-Districts (1891).	Estimated Area in Acres, 1891.	Enumerated Population.*		Increase in 10 Years.		Persons to the Acre, 1891.
		1881.	1891.	Number.	Per cent.	
Melbourne City - - -	5,020	65,859	73,514	7,655	11·62	14·64
North Melbourne Town -	565	17,839	20,985	3,146	17·64	37·14
Fitzroy City - - -	923	23,118	32,455	9,337	40·39	35·16
Collingwood City - -	1,139	23,829	35,066	11,237	47·16	30·79
Richmond City - - -	1,430	23,405	38,770	15,365	65·65	27·11
Brunswick Town - -	2,722	6,222	21,955	15,733	252·86	8·07
Northcote Town - - -	2,850	1,584	7,741	6,157	388·70	2·72
Prahran City - - -	2,320	21,168	39,699	18,531	87·54	17·11
South Melbourne City - -	2,311	25,374	41,730	16,356	64·46	18·06
Port Melbourne Borough -	2,366	8,771	13,058	4,287	48·88	5·52
St. Kilda City - - -	1,886	11,654	19,885	8,231	70·63	10·54
Brighton Town - - -	3,288	4,755	9,887	5,132	107·93	3·01
Essendon Town - - -	4,000	5,061	14,411	19,308	381·51	3·60
Flemington and Kensington Borough - - -	1,088		9,958			9·15

* Figures for 1891 are subject to future revision.

Municipal Sub-Districts (1891).	Estimated Area in Acres, 1891.	Enumerated Population.		Increase in 10 Years.		Persons to the Acre, 1891.
		1881.	1891.	Number.	Per cent.	
Hawthorn City - - -	2,389	6,019	19,623	13,604	226·02	8·21
Kew Borough - - -	3,553	4,288	8,476	4,188	97·67	2·39
Footscray City - - -	3,075	5,993	19,149	13,156	219·52	6·23
Williamstown Town - -	2,775	9,034	15,936	6,902	76·40	5·74
Oakleigh Borough - -	2,178	178	1,235	1,057	593·83	·57
Caulfield Shire - - -	6,080	2,488	7,992	5,504	221·22	1·31
Malvern Shire - -	4,000	1,797	8,142	6,345	353·09	2·04
Boroondara Shire - -	8,320	1,525	6,206	4,681	306·95	·75
Preston Shire - - -	8,900	1,410	3,563	2,153	152·69	·40
Coburg Shire - - -	4,800	2,659	5,754	3,095	116·40	1·20
Remainder of District - -	85,964	7,439	14,217	6,778	91·12	·17
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River - - - -	—	1,478	1,971	493	33·36	—
Total, including shipping -	163,942	282,947	491,378	208,431	73·67	3·00

Density of Metropolitan population.

45. The density of the population of each of the component parts of Greater Melbourne in 1891 is shown in the last column of the table. It will be noticed that the most thickly-peopled municipality is North Melbourne, with over 37 persons to the acre; then Fitzroy, with 35; Collingwood, with 31; Richmond, with 27; South Melbourne, with 18; Prahran, with 17; and Melbourne City, with 14, persons to the acre. In explanation of the fact that some of the suburbs are more densely populated than the city, it will be remembered that large numbers of people who come to business spend their days in the latter, but have their residences, and would therefore be enumerated, in the former. It should also be borne in mind that, in some of the municipalities, extensive parks, gardens, and other public reserves exist, so that the population is really living in closer proximity than the figures indicate. Melbourne City contains 1,723 acres of such reserves; Kew, 634 acres; South Melbourne, 474 acres; Williamstown, 446 acres; Flemington and Kensington, 307 acres; St. Kilda, 250 acres; Richmond, 190½ acres; Brighton, 166½ acres; Port Melbourne, 80¼ acres; Essendon, 54 acres; Fitzroy, 41 acres; Collingwood, 39 acres; Footscray, 36 acres; and smaller reserves in some of the other municipalities. If the reserves be excluded, the persons to the acre in the places named would be as follows:—Fitzroy, 36·8; Collingwood, 31·9; Richmond, 31·3; South Melbourne, 22·7; Melbourne City, 22·3; St. Kilda, 12·2; Flemington and Kensington, 12·7; Williamstown, 6·8; Footscray, 6·3; Port Melbourne, 5·7; Essendon, 3·6; Brighton, 3·2; and Kew, 2·9.

Population of Melbourne and other cities compared.

46. According to the recent census Melbourne is the most populous town in the southern hemisphere; is more populous than any town in the United Kingdom except London, Glasgow,

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Liverpool, and Manchester; than any town on the continent of Europe, except Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Constantinople, St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Naples; or than any town in the United States, except New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Brooklyn. It should, however, be remembered that the population of the suburbs is included in the case of Melbourne, but it may not be so in the case of some of the towns which appear to have smaller populations according to the statements published.

Populations of Australasian Colonies, 1881 to 1891.

47. The enumerated population according to the censuses of 1881 and 1891, together with the proportions of the sexes, and the number of persons to the square mile, in each of the Australasian Colonies, is shown in the following table:—

Enumerated Populations of Australasian Colonies, 1881 *and* 1891.*

Colony.	Census Year.	Enumerated Population.			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Victoria	1881	452,083	410,263	862,346	90·75	9·813
	1891	599,172	541,233	1,140,405	90·33	12·976
New South Wales	1881	411,149	340,319	751,468	82·79	2·431
	1891	616,008	518,199	1,134,207	84·12	3·668
Queensland	1881	125,325	88,200	213,525	70·38	·320
	1891	223,781	170,157	393,938	76·04	·589
South Australia	1881	149,530	130,335	279,865	87·16	·310
	1891	166,374	153,632	320,006	92·34	·354
Western Australia	1881	17,062	12,646	29,708	74·12	·030
	1891	29,878	19,957	49,835	66·80	·051
Tasmania	1881	61,162	54,543	115,705	89·18	4·387
	1891	77,560	69,107	146,667	89·10	5·561
New Zealand	1881	269 605	220,328	489,933	81·70	4·700
	1891	333,175	293,655	626,830	88·14	6·014

More persons in Victoria than in New South Wales.

48. It will be noticed that, according to the census of 1891, the population of Victoria is still greater than that of New South Wales. The male population of the latter exceeds that of Victoria; but the effect of this upon the numbers of the total population is neutralised by the large excess of females in this Colony. The official estimates published prior to the recent census indicated that New South Wales had a larger population than Victoria, but the simultaneous enumeration of the two Colonies has shown the reverse to be the case.

* The figures for 1891 are subject to future revision.

Population of Australia and Australasia, 1881 and 1891.

49. In the 10 years which intervened between the censuses of 1881 and 1891, the inhabitants on the continent of Australia increased by 901,000 and in Australasia, including not only the continental Colonies, but also Tasmania and New Zealand, they increased by 1,069,000. The numbers as well as the proportions of the sexes and the density of population, at both enumerations were as follows:—

Enumerated Population of Australasia, 1881 *and* 1891.

Continent of—	Census Year.	Enumerated Population.*			Females to 100 Males.	Persons to the Square Mile.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Australia - -	1881	1,155,149	981,763	2,136,912	84·99	0·726
	1891	1,635,213	1,403,178	3,038,391	85·81	1·032
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand -	1881	1,485,916	1,256,634	2,742,550	84·57	0·892
	1891	2,045,948	1,765,940	3,811,888	86·31	1·239

Sexes approaching equality.

50. According to the experience of the intercensal period, the proportionate excess of males over females shows a tendency to diminish both on the Australian continent and in Australasia as a whole.

Proportion of Victorians in Australasia.

51. A comparison of the figures in the last two tables will show that considerably more than one-third of the inhabitants of Australia, and more than two sevenths of the inhabitants of the Australasian group, are living in Victoria.

Annual rates of increase, 1861 to 1891.

52. The following table shows the annual rate of increase of the population of each Colony in each of the last three decennial periods:—

Annual Increase of Population, 1861 *to* 1891.

Colony.	Annual Rate of Increase, per cent., between the Censuses of		
	1861 and 1871.	1871 and 1881.	1881 and 1889 (not final).
Victoria - - - -	3·07	1·66	2·83
New South Wales - -	3·69	4·08	4·20
Queensland - - -	14·65	6·11	6·32
South Australia - - -	3·88	4·19	1·35
Western Australia - -	5·28	1·63	5·31
Total Australia -	3·94	3·17	3·58
Tasmania - - -	1·14	1·37	2·40
New Zealand - - -	11·80	6·63	2·49
Total Australasia -	4·51	3·61	3·35

* The figures for 1891 are subject to future revision.

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Rate of increase, 1881 to 1891.

53. Except in very small communities, an annual increase of the population of 3 per cent. may be regarded as a high rate, and even that could not, under ordinary conditions, be maintained except by the aid of immigration. For it rarely happens that over a series of years the rate of natural increase (*i.e.*, by excess of births over deaths) exceeds 2 per cent. Indeed, in almost every country it is below 1½ per cent.; although exceptional instances occur, as in the case of some of the Australasian Colonies, where the rates have over a series of years considerably exceeded even 2 per cent., notably New Zealand, where the rate has averaged as high as 2·8 per cent. Such high rates, however, are unusual, and are generally due to the presence of an abnormally large proportion of the population being at the reproductive ages, consequent on a considerable influx of immigrants. A glance at the last table will show that in Queensland, Western Australia, and New South Wales, the annual rate of increase in the 10 years ended with 1891 has been considerably over 3 per cent., and although in the other Colonies it has been less than 3 per cent., the average for the whole of Australasia has been over 3⅓ per cent., and for the continent of Australia 3⅔ per cent.

Rates of increase at three periods compared.

54. On comparing the rates of increase at three periods, it will be observed that the population of Victoria increased one and three quarter times as fast at the last as at the second period, but not quite so fast as at the first period; also that the population of New South Wales increased much faster at the last than at the first, and a little faster than at the second periods. Queensland and New Zealand had by far the highest rates of increase at the first and second periods, but, whilst Queensland still maintained a high position, New Zealand at the last period is shown to have had a lower rate than any Colony, except Tasmania or South Australia.

Probable Australasian populations, 1901.

55. In view of the increases shown in the table it may fairly be estimated that when the next simultaneous census of the Colonies is taken, viz., in 1901, the inhabitants of the Australian continent will be found to number at least 4,310,000, and those of that continent with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand will be found to number close upon 5,300,000.

Time Australian population doubles itself.

56. In the 10 years ended with the date of the census of 1891, the rate of increase of the population of the Australian continent was a little over 42 per cent., and of the continent combined with Tasmania and New Zealand just 39 per cent. At these rates, the population of Australia would double itself in less than 20 years and that of Australasia in 21 years.

Time Victorian population doubles itself.

57. Between the censuses of 1881 and 1891 the increase of the Victorian population was 32¼ per cent. At this rate that population would double itself in 25 years.

Immigration and emigration, 1890.

58. The arrivals and departures by sea* recorded during 1890 also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow:—

* No account is kept of the arrivals or departures overland.

Immigration and Emigration, 1890.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	52,171	27,606	79,777
Departures by sea - - -	42,740	21,080	63,820
Excess of arrivals - -	9,431	6,526	15,957

Gain by immigration, 1889 and 1890 compared.

59. The records of both arrivals and departures show smaller numbers for 1890 than for 1889, the former by 4,805, and the latter by 4,598; the apparent net gain being less than in 1889 by 207, viz., 53 males and 154 females.

Finance account, 1889–90.

60. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Victoria in the financial year ended on the 30th June 1890; the excess of the latter over the former; the credit balance brought forward from 1888–89, and that carried forward to 1890–91 :—

Finance Account of Victoria, 1889–90.*

(Exclusive of recoups and advances to be recouped.)

	£	s.	d.
Receipts - - -	8,519,158	12	4
Expenditure - - -	9,645,736	13	8
Expenditure in excess of receipts - - -	1,126,578	1	4
Credit balance from 1888–89 -	1,704,846	2	1
Credit balance carried forward to 1890–91 - - -	578,268	0	9

Large credit balance.

61. Although during the financial year under review, the expenditure exceeded the receipts by 1,126,578*l.* the large credit balance brought forward from the previous year, viz., 1,704,846, was sufficient not only to provide for the difference but also to allow of a credit balance of 578,268*l.* being carried forward to 1890–91. The former amount exceeded by close on 1,000,000*l.* the largest credit balance ever previously brought forward at the beginning of any financial year; whilst the latter, although not so large as in the three preceding years, was much larger than in any other previous years, except 1857.

Set off to credit balance, 1889–90.

62. With reference to this credit balance it should be stated that, had it not been that the practice, which had prevailed in 1888–89 and previous years, of charging forward to the next year all expenditure not provided for in the Appropriation Act was

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly on 28th July 1891 by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1890–91 was 8,340,813*l.*, and the expenditure was 9,228,693*l.*, the latter thus exceeding the former by 887,880*l.*, which amount being deducted from the balance at the beginning of the financial year leaves a debit balance of 309,612*l.* to be carried forward.

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changed in 1889–90 by the introduction of supplementary estimates, the credit balance would have been increased, by about 420,000*l.* The supplementary estimates, amounting to 420,828*l.* were passed on the 31st July 1890, and were intended to embrace all the remaining liabilities of the year. It was subsequently found, however, that these were deficient by 153,226*l.*, of which 113,929*l.* was for railway working expenses, which had therefore to be charged to the votes for 1890–91. If this amount be deducted, the credit balance is at once reduced to 425,042*l.*, and if a deduction be also made of the amount of interest on the public debt which had accrued to the 30th of June 1890, viz., 610,998*l.* payable on the 1st July, and 109,669*l.* payable on the 1st October following, or 720,667*l.* in all, the credit balance would be changed into a debit balance of 295,625*l.* It should, however, be pointed out that the system of charging to the year only the interest paid in the year, no allowance being made for interest accrued but not yet payable, has always prevailed in the public accounts of Victoria. In 1888–89, the amount expended in the year, but charged forward to the ensuing year, was 658,936*l.*, and the interest accrued in the year, but not due until the ensuing year, was 654,544*l.*, and in 1887–88 the respective amounts were 507,123*l.* and 603,994*l.*

Net revenue and expenditure.

63. In the following table the receipts and expenditure, exclusive of advances recouped and to be recouped, are given for each of the 16 financial years ended with 1889–90, also the surplus or deficiency of revenue in each year, and the credit or debit balances carried forward from year to year:—

Net Public Revenue and Net Public Expenditure, 1874–75 *to* 1889–90.

Year.	Excluding Advances Recouped and to be Recouped.			
	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.	Surplus (+). Deficiency (−).	Balances carried forward. Credit (+). Debit (−).
	£	£	£	£
1874–75 -	4,169,700	4,296,649	− 126,949	+ 120,155
1875–76 -	4,325,156	4,394,066	− 68,910	+ 51,245
1876–77 -	4,513,738	4,336,139	+ 177,599	+ 228,844
1877–78 -	4,485,412	4,536,062	− 50,650	− 178,194
1878–79 -	4,520,277	4,809,724	− 289,447	− 111,253
1879–80 -	4,600,627	4,803,790	− 203,163	− 314,416
1880–81 -	5,115,041	5,100,225	+ 14,816	− 299,600
1881–82 -	5,589,972	5,145,764	+ 444,208	+ 144,608
1882–83 -	5,602,066	5,643,885	− 41,819	+ 102,789
1883–84 -	5,934,578	5,653,293	+ 281,285	+ 384,074
1884–85 -	6,290,361	6,121,534	+ 168,797	+ 552,871
1885–86 -	6,416,406	6,513,540	− 97,134	+ 455,737
1886–87 -	6,733,826	6,561,251	+ 172,575	+ 628,312
1887–88 -	7,607,598	7,287,151	+ 320,447	+ 948,758
1888–89 -	8,675,990	7,919,902	+ 756,088	+ 1,704,846
1889–90 -	8,519,159	9,645,737	− 1,126,578	+ 578,268

Years of highest and lowest surplus and deficiency &c.

64. It will be noticed that the gross revenue showed a surplus in eight and a deficiency in eight of the years named. On the whole the deficiencies were smaller than the surpluses, as the balance carried forward at the end of the last year exceeded that at the end of the first year of the period by over 458,000*l.* By far the largest surplus of revenue was in 1888–89, when it exceeded by nearly one-third of a million sterling that in 1881–82, which was the next largest. The credit balance carried forwarded at the end of 1888–89 was also much larger than that in 1887–88, which in turn was much larger than in any other year. The largest deficiency of revenue was in 1889–90, when it exceeded by over 830,000*l.* the deficiency in 1878–79 which was the next largest.

Changes in source of revenue.

65. During the year 1889–90, considerable changes were made affecting the revenue derived from taxation. On the one hand, the customs duties on tea, coffee, cocoa, and other articles were either remitted or considerably reduced, at an estimated loss on the financial year of about 75,500*l.*, whilst on the other hand, the duties on a large number of articles were increased at an estimated gain to the revenue of about 156,000*l.*, on the assumption that the importation of the articles affected would not fall off. As a matter of fact, however, the customs revenue collected did fall off by close on 222,000*l.*, owing to a contraction in the general imports, which in 1888–89 were exceptionally large, having been stimulated partly by the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition held during that year, and partly by the great excitement, which was then at its height, in connexion with land, mining, and other speculations. Moreover, the excise duty on tobacco was reduced, at an estimated loss on the year of about 19,000*l.*, and the rate of tonnage dues on vessels was reduced, at a loss of about 16,000*l.* On the other hand, an unforeseen increase of 163,700*l.*, as compared with 1888–89, occurred in the amount received from duties on estates of deceased persons, a source of income which is naturally subject to fluctuations. As regards other sources of revenue, the railways were extended by an average length of 186 miles during the year; and, in consequence, the revenue derivable therefrom might be expected to increase, allowing 1,000*l.* per mile, by about 186,000*l.* The traffic, however, in the previous year had been exceptionally heavy, owing to the large number of visitors attracted to Melbourne by the Exhibition, and this not being sustained in 1889–90 the railway revenue showed an actual increase of only 29,000*l.* All things considered, it appears there was probably a net gain of 110,500*l.* in the revenue from taxation arising from changes in the taxes alone, and a further gain of 349,700*l.* from the extension of railways and certain accidental circumstances. Thus the total net gain from radical changes in the sources of revenue may be set down as 395,200*l.*

Revenue, 1888–89 and 1889–90 compared.

66. The total revenue raised in 1889–90 was about 156,800*l.* less than that in the previous year; and by making allowance for receipts from sources not common to both years, as shown in

last paragraph, the falling off is increased to about 552,000*l.*, thus :—

Comparative Revenues, 1888–89 *and* 1889–90.

	1888–89.	1889–90.
	£	£
Revenue proper (*i.e.*, exclusive of recoups, &c.) - - - - -	8,675,990	8,519,195
Deduct amounts from sources not common to both years - - - -	—	395,200
Comparative amounts - - -	8,675,990	8,123,995

Revenue 1889–90 and previous years.

67. The revenue of 1889–90, although somewhat smaller than in 1888–89, was much larger than that raised in any previous year. The year in which the next largest revenue had previously been realised was 1887–88, when, however, it was about 911,600*l.* less than in the year under review. In the 10 years ended with the year under review the revenue increased from 4,600,000*l.* to 8,500,000*l.*, or by 85 per cent., the population during the same period having increased by only 32 per cent.

Expenditure 1889–90 and former years.

68. The expenditure in 1889–90 was much the largest which ever took place in Victoria. It exceeded that in 1888–89, the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred, by over 1,700,000*l.*, and that in 1887–88, which came next by about 2,350,000*l.* Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–73 it was usually nearly up to or slightly over three millions; from 1873–74 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–84 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions, and from 1884–85 to 1889–90 it increased from six to over nine and a half millions sterling.

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1889–90 and former years.

69. The revenue per head in 1889–90 was 7*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, which was less by 6*s.* 8*d.* than in the previous year, but the expenditure per head was 8*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, which was larger by 1*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* than in the previous year. The former, however, was larger than in any other previous year since 1857, whilst the latter was larger than in any year since 1854. In proportion to population, both revenue and expenditure declined pretty steadily year by year from 1862 to 1872–73, but ever since the latter a gradual increase has taken place, which with slight fluctuations, has been maintained up to the present time.

Heads of revenue, 1888–89 and 1889–90.

70. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz. :—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Post and Telegraphs, and other sources. In 1889–90, 3,631,000*l.* or 42½ per cent., was derived from taxation; 580,000*l.*, or 7 per cent., from Crown Lands; 3,926,000*l.*, or 46 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government,

viz.:—Railways, Waterworks, and Post and Telegraphs, to which the railways alone contributed as much as 3,134,000*l.*, or 37 per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to 383,000*l.*, or about 4½ per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the land revenue, amounting to 580,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 443,000*l.*, being equal to 5 per cent. of the total revenue, was derived from the sale of public land, which, being a receipt arising from the realisation of one of the most valuable assets of the country, is obviously not a permanent source of income. Portion of this amount is properly treated as capital, for on reference to the statement of expenditure it will be seen that a sum of nearly 88,600*l.* was paid during the year towards the construction of railways as directed by the Land Act, 1884, which provides that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the railway construction account. In the last two years, however, the amount so paid represented barely one-fifth of the total proceeds from land sales, the great bulk of land alienated being disposed of otherwise than at auction. A special receipt in 1889–90, amounting to 140,000*l.*, was derived from the sale of the old police court site, the proceeds of which have not been allowed to merge into the general revenue, but have been set apart for various public works. The following is a statement of the amounts received under different heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head:—

Heads of Revenue, 1888–89 *and* 1889–90.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1888–89.	1889–90.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,879,830	2,658,010	—	221,820
Excise	146,555	137,332	—	9,223
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	45,884	29,789	—	16,095
Licenses (business)	23,904	21,756	—	2,148
Duties on estates of deceased persons	236,449	400,150	163,701	—
Duties on bank notes	34,023	32,173	—	1,850
Stamp duty	260,000	230,000	—	30,000
Land tax	123,025	121,604	—	1,421
Total	3,749,670	3,630,814	—	118,856
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	494,733	442,583	—	52,150
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	119,778	136,358	16,580	—
Penalties under Land Acts	1,517	835	—	682
Total	616,028	579,776	—	36,252

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Heads of Revenue.	Amounts Received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1888-89.	1889-90.		
	£	£	£	£
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways - - - - -	3,104,907	3,134,066	29,159	—
Water supply - - - -	245,734	260,227	14,493	—
Other public works - - -	5,805	4,848	—	957
Total - - - -	3,356,446	3,399,141	42,695	—
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.				
Postal receipts, &c. - - -	402,834	353,684	—	49,150
Telegraph receipts, &c. - - -	150,043	172,716	22,673	—
Total - - - -	552,877	526,400	—	26,477
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges - - - -	10,051	11,317	1,266	—
„ subsidy returned - - -	3,642	4,478	836	—
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamps) -	174,998	162,807	—	12,191
Interest on public account - - -	107,888	66,700	—	41,188
Rents (other than Crown lands) - -	3,224	4,019	795	—
Reimbursements in aid - - -	67,130	75,220	8,090	—
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	34,036	58,487	24,451	—
Total - - - -	400,969	383,028	—	17,941
Total Ordinary Revenue -	8,675,990	8,519,159	—	156,831
Special Receipts - -	—	140,000	140,000	—
Grand Total Receipts - -	8,675,990	8,659,159	—	16,831

Increased revenue, 1889–90, under various heads.

71. Comparing the revenue of 1889–90 with that of the previous year, it will be observed that there was a net decrease of over 156,800*l.* in the total revenue, arising from a falling off of 438,800*l.* under certain heads, less an increase of 282,000*l.* under others. By far the most important decrease was 118,800*l.* under taxation, which would, moreover, have been swelled to 280,000*l.* had it not been for the exceptionally large revenue from duties on estates of deceased persons. There was also a net decrease of 36,000*l.* in the land revenue, of 26,500*l.* in the receipts from posts and telegraphs, and of 18,000*l.* in those from "other sources"; whilst, on the other hand, there was a net increase of 42,700*l.* in the revenue from publicworks. The diminished land revenue resulted chiefly from a decrease of 52,100*l.* under land sales, both by auction and selection, less an increase of 16,600*l.* in the rents from temporary occupation, &c. In the Public Works division, the revenue from waterworks shows a substantial increase of 14,500*l.*; and the railway revenue an increase of 29,159*l.*, which, however, is less by 157,000*l.* than the amount which might have been expected (viz., 186,000*l.*) from the increased length of lines open for traffic; but it has already been pointed out that the traffic in 1888–89 was exceptionally large in consequence of the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition, held in that year.

The telegraph revenue continues to show remarkable expansion, the increase in 1889-90 being 22,700*l.*, whilst the total increase since 1883–84, just before considerable reductions were made in the rates, was 85,800*l.*, or close on 100 per cent. It should be noted, however, that over 36,000*l.* of this is derived from the telephone exchanges, taken over by the Government in September 1887. The postal receipts show an apparent decrease of 49,000*l.*, chiefly in consequence of the rate for inland letters being reduced from 2*d.* to 1*d.*, from the 1st January 1890, at an estimated loss of 96,000*l.* for the first 12 months. In reference to the postal revenue, it should be pointed out that, although carefully estimated in the office of the Government Statist, it may be wide of the mark, the data available being inadequate to show with certainty the progress of this important branch of revenue; and the reductions made from time to time in the postal rates still further increase the difficulty of forming a correct estimate. The total stamp revenue from 1889–90 was 797,894*l.*, but, after deducting the amount received on account of telegrams, which is known, there remains a balance of 662,649*l.* for stamp duty, postage, and fees, as compared with 749,856*l.* in 1888–89. Thus the stamp revenue, exclusive of telegraphs, showed a decrease as compared with that received in the previous year of 87,207*l.*, as against an increase of 82,286*l.* in 1888–89, of 140,792*l.* in 1887–88, of only 1,465*l.* in 1886–87, of 36,931*l.* in 1885-86, and of 43,372*l.* in 1884–85. Of the decrease in 1889–90, about 50,000*l.* was estimated to have been due chiefly to the reduction in the rate of postage just alluded to, against which must be set off an increase of about 1,600*l.* from the parcels post; and, after allowing a reasonable reduction for fees, a balance of 30,000*l.* is set down to stamp duty (taxation). Under "other sources" there was a falling off of 41,000*l.* in the interest received on the public account, and one of 12,000*l.* in fees; but, on the other hand, these amounts were partly counterbalanced by an increase of 24,000*l.*, in miscellaneous receipts and minor increases under other sub-heads.

Heads of expenditure, 1888–89 and 1889–90.

72. Of the total ordinary expenditure of Victoria in 1889–90, 1,363,000*l.*, or 14 per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government, maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attacks; 1,029,000*l.*, including 201,000*l.* for buildings, or 11 per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 316,000*l.*, or nearly 3¼ per cent., was expended on public charities or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 97,000*l.*, or nearly 1 per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, about 39,000*l.* less than the gross annual rental therefrom during the same financial year; as much as 4,720,000*l.*, or 49 per cent., was absorbed in working out the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 2,580,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, besides 1,431,000*l.* in interest upon loans raised for their construction, and 709,000*l.* on post and telegraphs; 118,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the construction of other public works; 89,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue

from Customs duties and Excise, whilst 35,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and nearly 386,000*l.*, or 4 per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 94,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary annual expenditure for the year; but besides this an amount of 1,123,000*l.*, or 12 per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on productive and unproductive public works of a permanent character, viz., 89,000*l.* on railways, and 1,034,000*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection and of maintenance of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies (450,000*l.*). These amounts might be considered as a set-off against the proceeds of land sales before referred to, which they even exceeded by 680,000*l.* In 1889–90 also there were certain items of special expenditure, amounting to 190,779*l.* for the erection of certain public buildings and the improvement of Crown lands, to be recouped from the proceeds of the sale of the old police court site, of lunatic asylum grounds, and of reclaimed lands. The following is a classification of the expenditure under 10 divisions and 27 subsidiary heads, during the years 1888–89 and 1889–90, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1888–89 *and* 1889–90.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1888-89.	1889-90.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list*	40,564	40,915	351	—
Legislature	73,216	74,282	1,066	—
Civil establishment†	146,617	166,471	19,854	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	96,610	108,842	12,232	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	53,916	41,701	—	12,215
Total	410,923	432,211	21,288‡	—
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.				
Judicial and legal	217,180	243,856	26,676	—
Police	261,329	265,149	3,820	—
Gaols and penal establishments	66,163	71,146	4,983	—
Defences—Naval and Military	346,623	350,823	4,200	—
Total	891,295	930,974	39,679	—

* Including Governor's salary and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent General, expenses of Executive Council and Public Service Board.

† Including cost of the following departments:—Chief Secretary, Shorthand Writer, Agent General's Office, Audit Office, Registrar of Friendly Societies, Treasury, Stores and Transport, and Government Printer.

‡ Net figures.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended. 1888-89.	Amounts Expended. 1888-90.	Increase.	Decrease.
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.	£	£	£	£
Public instruction, science, &c.	774,449	828,074	53,625	—
State School buildings	—	201,140	201,140	—
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	283,986	316,140	32,154	—
Total	1,058,435	1,345,354	286,919	—
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	100,573	97,249	—	3,324
Agriculture, &c.	73,229	98,445	25,216	—
Mining	119,139	137,291	18,152	—
Total	292,941	332,985	40,044	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses	1,803,124	2,511,106	707,982	—
„ Construction account	120,873	88,588	—	32,285
Water supply	71,989	68,850	—	3,139
Other public works	808,803	1,034,381	225,578	—
Total	2,804,789	3,702,925	898,136	—
Post and telegraphs	619,070	709,328	90,258	—
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways	1,126,765	1,203,375	76,610	—
„ „ Water supply	216,195	227,180	10,985	—
„ „ Other works	116,282	117,590	1,308	—
Total interest, &c.	1,459,242	1,548,145	88,903	—
Redemption of loans	—	276,100	276,100	—
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.				
Customs	87,412	88,966	1,554	—
Harbours and lights	34,595	35,166	571	—
Total	122,007	124,132	2,125	—
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines	10,949	9,761	—	1,188
Miscellaneous services	230,251	213,822	—	16,429
Total	261,200	243,583	—	17,617
Total ordinary expenditure	7,919,902	9,645,.37	1,725,835	—
Special expenditure	39,424	190,779	151,355	—
Total expenditure—ordinary and special	7,959,326	9,836,516	1,877,190	—

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Chief items of increased expenditure, 1889–90.

73. It will be observed that an increase appears in the expenditure under all the heads but five, the net increase amounting to about 1,726,000*l.* The most prominent increases were 708,000*l.* in the working expenses of railways, 225,600*l.* under miscellaneous public works—which includes 109,146*l.* increased municipal subsidy, 37,700*l.* on the purchase of land and erection of buildings for postal purposes; 33,700*l.* on wharves, jetties, lighthouses, &c.; 19,200*l.* on roads and bridges; 90,300*l.* under post and telegraphs; 88,900*l.* under interest on the public debt; 53,600*l.* under public instruction; 32,200*l.* under charitable institutions, &c., 26,700*l.* under judicial and legal; 25,200*l.* under agriculture; 18,200*l.* under mining, chiefly in search of coal and working of diamond drills; and 19,900*l.* under civil establishment, of which 14,500*l.* was in the department of the Government Printer, and 3,600*l.* in the new department of the Marine Board. Moreover, the following items, which did not appear in the accounts of the previous year, being usually provided for out of loans, appear in the expenditure in 1889–90, being paid from revenue in consequence of the prosperous condition of the finances, viz.:—State school buildings, 201,140*l.*; redemption of loans, 276,100*l.* On the other hand, there was a large decrease of 32,300*l.* in the payment to the railway construction account, consequent on the falling off in land sales; and of 16,400*l.* in "Miscellaneous Services," resulting chiefly from a new item of 150,000*l.* for advances to shires (to be recouped) appearing only in the accounts for 1889–90, and an item of 184,700*l.* on account of the late Exhibition appearing only in those for 1888–89. The increase of 53,600*l.* under public instruction was partly due to the increased cost of State education (46,000*l.*), and partly to additional endowments and grants to educational institutions generally. It has already been stated that nearly half the total expenditure is in connexion with the working of the railways, waterworks, and post and telegraphs. The most important of these is, of course, the railways, and a comparison of the railway finances of 1889–90 with those of the previous year shows, that whilst the actual working expenses increased by 186,400*l.*, the revenue increased by only 29,200*l.* Owing to the constantly increasing amount borrowed for railway construction, the interest paid thereon increased during the year referred to by about 76,600*l.* The next most important commercial undertakings are the postal and telegraph services, which it has been the policy of the Government to work, although at an immediate loss; thus, whilst the expenditure in 1889–90 on these services was 709,000*l.* it is estimated that the revenue was only a little over 526,000*l.*, and thus the deficiency in that year amounted to about 183,000*l.* as against only 66,000*l.* in the previous year; if, however, allowance were made for official correspondence, transmitted free of cost (say 70,000*l.*), and the interest (63,800*l.*) paid on savings banks deposits, from which the postal revenue does not derive any benefit, the deficit for 1889–90 would be reduced to about 50,000*l.* In former years the deficit usually averaged about 100,000*l.* The

comparatively large deficit in 1889–90 was due not so much to the loss of revenue occasioned by the introduction of the penny post on the 1st January 1890, already referred to, as to the increased cost of post and telegraph services generally. Thus, the net loss in the postal and telegraph revenue, as already shown, was only 26,500*l.*, but, on the other hand, the cost of the departmental staff increased by 54,800*l.*, although only about 4,500*l.* of this (in the first six months) was for additional staff required in connexion with the reduced postal rate; the cost of inland mails increased by 13,000*l.*; expenditure on telegraphs by 13,000*l.*; and interest on savings banks deposits by 6,700*l.* The increase under the head of charitable institutions arose from an increased vote of 10,000*l.* for grants in aid, 9,000*l.* additional cost of hospitals for the insane, and 9,500*l.* for the new inebriate asylum. The increased amounts under the head of agriculture are, agricultural societies 3,000*l.*, State forests 4,000*l.*, rabbit extermination (besides 150,000*l.* lent to shires for erection of wire fencing) 8,000*l.*, vine diseases eradication 6,000*l.*, bonuses 4,000*l.*

Expenditure from loans.

74. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1884–85 and during each subsequent year. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure by exhibiting those items which having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1890.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.							
	Prior to 1884–85.	1884–85.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1889–90.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways - -	19,861,253	901,577	1,408,662	1,711,160	1,774,721	3,083,211	2,933,087	31,673,671
Water supply -	4,040,559	172,465	235,485	373,994	462,562	484,068	796,271	6,565,404
Law courts and Parliament Houses -	436,266	568	12,153	32,770	44,954	37,563	15,270	579,544
Public offices -	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences - -	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings - - -	898,500	69,995	45,438	49,284	54,308	59,970	—	1,177,495
Yarra bridge - -	10,182	3,663	14,205	42,561	32,627	18,207	—	121,445
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	14,106	46,077	20,976	47,856	53,344	54,279	9,377	246,015
Total - -	25,863,264	1,194,345	1,736,919	2,257,625	2,422,516	3,737,298	3,754,005	40,965,972

Heads of revenue in Australasian colonies.

75. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts received, under various heads of revenue, in the respective Australasian Colonies during the most recent year for which the

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particulars are available. The figures have all been derived from official sources:—

Heads of Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1889.

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria, 1889–90.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	Numbers.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation:—							
Customs, &c.	2,658,010	1,905,883	1,344,472	529,433	171,990	307,352	1,473,379
Other taxes*	972,804	771,286	230,135	181,815	22,258	115,292	612,702
Total	3,630,814	2,677,169	1,574,607	711,248	194,247	422,644	2,086,081
Crown lands	579,776	2,137,563	648,788	174,246	87,016	70,891	319,809
Railways	3,134,066	2,596,375	799,779	910,561	41,151	75,922	1,018,211
Post and telegraphs	526,400	597,988	220,171	208,118	24,455	55,874	322,083
Other sources	684,103	1,054,302	196,904	266,260	35,343	53,578	245,735
Total	8,519,159	9,063,397	3,440,249	2,270,433	382,213	678,909	3,991,919
	Proportions per cent.						
Taxation:—							
Customs, &c.	31·20	21·03	39·08	23·32	45·00	45·27	36·91
Other taxes	11·42	8·51	6·69	8·01	5·82	16·98	15·35
Total	42·62	29·54	45·77	31·33	50·82	62·25	52·26
Crown lands	6·81	23·58	18·86	7·67	22·76	10·44	8·01
Railways	36·79	28·65	23·25	40·10	10·77	11·19	25·51
Post and telegraphs	6·18	6·60	6·40	9·17	6·40	8·23	8·07
Other sources	7·60	11·63	5·72	11·73	9·25	7·89	6·15
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

NOTE.—The figures of revenue and expenditure for Victoria are for the 12 months ended 30th June 1890, but those for the other Colonies are for the calendar year 1889. Refunds of revenue, drawbacks, and such similar entries, are rigidly excluded from the accounts of revenue and expenditure of Victoria and New Zealand, but are included in those of New South Wales and Queensland; also, it is believed, in those of some of the other Colonies.

Proportion of revenue from different sources.

76. It will be observed that the proportion of revenue raised by taxation, chiefly derived from customs duties, varied from about 30 per cent. in New South Wales and South Australia, to 62 per cent. in Tasmania. The revenue from railways also formed a very large proportion of the total revenue of all the Colonies, varying

* The amounts in this line are made up of excise duties, including licenses imposed for revenue purposes; duties on bank notes; stamps, other than those for post and telegraphs and fees of office; legacy, succession, and probate duties; property and income taxes; and any other impost, payable to the General Government, levied distinctly as a tax; but excluding fees, licenses, and charges for special services rendered.

from about a ninth in Western Australia and Tasmania, to more than a third of the whole in Victoria and South Australia. The Crown lands revenue varied in the different Colonies from 7 to 24 per cent. of the whole, the former proportion prevailing in Victoria, and the latter in New South Wales; and that from post and telegraphs from 6 to 9 per cent.

Heads of revenue in Victoria and New South Wales compared.

77. It will be remarked that the land revenue was nearly four times as large in New South Wales as in Victoria, which item alone much more than accounts for the larger total revenue of the former Colony. Indeed, if the land revenue be deducted from the total revenues of the two Colonies, the revenue of Victoria, notwithstanding certain cross entries in the New South Wales returns, would exceed the revenue of that Colony by 1,013,000*l.*, the respective amounts for 1889 being 7,939,000*l.* and 6,926,000*l.* It also appears that the railway revenue of Victoria exceeded that of New South Wales by about 540,000*l.*; in the former Colony it forms more than one-third, and in New South Wales more than one-fourth, of the total revenue. The total taxation of Victoria was greater than that of New South Wales by one million sterling, three-fourths of the excess appearing under the head of customs. Under other heads, the revenue in New South Wales from post and telegraphs exceeded that in Victoria by 70,000*l.*, and that from "other sources" by over 400,000*l.*

Land revenue in Australasian Colonies.

78. In 1889 the aggregate land revenue of the Australasian Colonies exceeded 4,000,000*l.* The following table shows the receipts from the sale and occupation of Crown lands and their proportion to the total revenue in each Australasian Colony during 1889. The Colonies are arranged in order according to that proportion:—

Land Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1889.

Colony.	Revenue derived from Crown Lands for—			Proportion of Land Revenue to Total Revenue.
	Alienation in Fee-simple and Progressive Alienation.	Temporary occupation and miscellaneous.	Total.	
	£	£	£	Per cent.
New South Wales -	1,149,171	988,392	2,137,563	23·58
Western Australia -	9,518	77,498	87,016	22·76
Queensland - -	277,000	371,788	648,788	18·86
Tasmania - -	49,166	21,725	70,891	10·44
New Zealand - -	91,627	228,182	319,809	8·01
South Australia - -	53,570	120,676	174,246	7·67
Victoria (1889–90) -	443,418	136,358	579,776	6·81
Total - -	2,073,470	1,944,619	4,018,089	14·18

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Prospective diminution of land revenues in Colonies.

79. It will be noticed that about a seventh of the aggregate revenues of the Australasian Colonies in 1889 was derived from Crown lands, and that the proportion amounted to less than a twelfth in Victoria, South Australia, and New Zealand; about a tenth in Tasmania; about a fifth in Queensland and Western Australia; and nearly a fourth in New South Wales. It will also be remarked that in the Colonies, as a whole, more than half the land revenue was derived from alienation in fee simple.

Land revenue in Australasia, 1878–89.

80. In 1889, as compared with 1888, an increase of 10,300*l.* occurred in the land revenue of Queensland, of 22,000*l.* in that of New Zealand, and of 5,700*l.* in that of Western Australia; whilst, on the other hand, there was a decrease of 145,300*l.* in that of South Australia, of 130,700*l.* in that of New South Wales, of 36,200*l.* in that of Victoria, and of 6,000*l.* in that of Tasmania. Taking the Colonies as a whole, there was a net decrease in 1889 of 280,200*l.* Considerable fluctuations have taken place in the land revenue during the 12 years ended with 1889, as shown in following table, from which it will be seen that the amount received was smaller in 1889 than in 1888 or 1887, but larger than in any other previous years named, except 1878, 1881, 1882, and 1883 :—

Land Revenue of Australasian Colonies, 1878 *to* 1889.

Year.	Land Revenue.	
	Total Amount.	Proportion of Total Revenue.
	£	
1878	5,814,388	33·00
1879	3,565,349	22·33
1880	3,802,143	17·50
1881	5,744,306	27·00
1882	5,458,963	25·00
1883	4,042,722	18·75
1884	4,001,028	17·50
1885	3,879,236	16·19
1886	3,560,297	14·98
1887	4,235,307	16·49
1888	4,298,326	15·02
1889	4,018,089	14·18

Victoria.

Taxation.

81. The amounts whereof revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. In Victoria the former class consists of customs and excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licenses, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprises amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, from water supply, from post and telegraph offices, from the mint, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the interest on the public account, from the labour of prisoners, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle:—

Taxation, 1889–90.

	£
Revenue raised by taxation - -	3,630,814
„ „ otherwise - -	4,888,345
Total - - -	8,519,159

Taxation per head.

82. In 1889–90 nearly 43 per cent. of the total revenue was raised by taxation, and if the amount so raised be divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year, already stated to have been 1,103,727*l.*, an average will be obtained of 3*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* to each individual.

Public debt.

83. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1890* to 41,377,693*l.*, consisting of moneys:—

	£
Borrowed in Victoria - -	1,308,993
„ England - -	40,068,700
Total - -	41,377,693

Purposes for which loans were incurred.

84. The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June 1890 was 51,971,313*l.*; but a total of 10,593,620*l.* having been repaid, viz., 2,379,200*l.* out of the general revenue, and 8,214,420*l.* out of the proceeds of redemption loans, the balance outstanding on the 30th June 1890 was reduced to 41,377,693*l.* The amount of public debt borrowed under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, the amount paid off, and the

* On the 30th June 1891 the public debt amounted to 43,610,265*l.* (including one million floated on the 7th July).

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amount outstanding on the 30th June 1890 are shown in the following table:—

Purposes for which Loans were Raised.

Purposes.	Total Amount Borrowed.	Amount Paid off.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June 1890.
	£	£	£
Railways	33,317,719	344,200	31,973,519
Water supply—			
Melbourne	2,922,866	800,000	2,122,866
Country	4,392,173	—	4,392,173
Parliament houses	246,453	—	246,453
Law courts	354,260	—	354,260
Public offices	166,195	—	166,195
Defences	100,000	—	100,000
State schools	1,105,557	—	1,105,557
Yarra Bridge	108,043	—	108,043
Harbours, &c.	275,554	—	275,554
Graving-dock	350,464	—	350,464
Tramways in country districts	182,609	—	182,609
Melbourne and Geelong improvements	735,000	735,000	—
Treasury bonds	500,000	500,000	—
	43,756,893	2,379,200	41,377,693
Redemption of loans	8,214,420	8,214,420	—
Total	51,971,313	10,593,620	41,377,693

Rates of interest.

85. About a sixth of the public debt bears interest at 3½ per cent., whilst nearly two-thirds bears interest at 4 per cent., and the balance at higher rates up to 6 per cent. The following are the rates of interest payable on the various amounts of which the public debt of Victoria was composed on the 30th June 1890:—

Rates of Interest.	Amount at each Rate.
	£
6 per cent.	850,000
5 per cent.	2,603,800
4½ per cent.	5,000,000
4 per cent.	25,923,893
3½ per cent.	7,000,000
Total	41,377,693

Interest and expenses of debt, 1860 to 1889–90.

86. The following is a statement of the total amount, and amount per head, paid as interest and expenses of the public debt in 1860, in each fifth year from that period to 1889–90 also, in

each of the same years, the proportion of the total amount to the revenue of Victoria:— VICTORIA.

Interest and Expenses of Public Debt, 1860 to 1889–90.

Year.	Interest and Expenses of Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head of Population.	Percentage of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1860 - -	251,777	0 9 4	8·17
1865 - -	517,081	0 16 8	16·81
1870 - -	647,674	0 17 10	19·86
1874–75 - -	719,282	0 18 3	17·25
1879–80 - -	979,864	1 3 1	21·30
1884–85 - -	1,271,907	1 6 11	20·22
1889–90 - -	1,548,145	1 8 1	18·17

Interest on debt in Australasian Colonies and elsewhere.

87. In the other Australasian Colonies, in 1889, the interest and expenses of the public debt per head varied from 2*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* in Queensland and 2*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* in New Zealand, to 2*l.* 7*s.* in South Australia, 1*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* in New South Wales, 1*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* in Western Australia, and 1*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* in Tasmania, whilst the proportion to the total expenditure varied from 41 per cent. in New Zealand, 32 per cent. in South Australia, 31 per cent. in Tasmania, and 29 per cent. in Queensland to 19½ per cent. in New South Wales, and nearly 18 per cent. in Western Australia. In the Australasian Colonies as a whole the interest and expenses of the public debt in 1889 amounted to 6,974,272*l.*, or to nearly 1*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* per head, and to nearly a fourth of the expenditure.

Debts of Australasian Colonies.

88. The following table shows the total amounts of debt, and the indebtedness per head, in Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies on the 31st December 1889, also the number of years' revenue the debt was equal to in that year:—

Public Debts of the Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	On the 31st December 1889.		
	Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.	Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to.
	£	£ s. d.	
Victoria - - - -	37,367,027	33 17 1	4·31
New South Wales - - -	46,646,449	41 11 4	5·15
Queensland - - -	25,840,950	63 10 11	7·51
South Australia - - -	20,435,500	62 19 7	9·00
Western Australia - - -	1,371,981	31 7 11	3·59
Tasmania - - - -	5,019,050	33 2 8	7·39
New Zealand - - - -	38,483,250	62 0 10	9·64

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Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

89. If the amounts of debt shown in the table be added together it will be found that at the end of 1889 the aggregate debt of the Colonies on the continent of Australia was 131⅔ millions and the aggregate debt of Australia with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand exceeded 175 millions sterling. The following are the exact figures, also the proportion of indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the Colonies within the same limits :—

Public Debt of Australia and Australasia, 1889.

	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	Per cent.
Continent of Australia - - -	131,661,907	43 13 4	5·52
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand - - - -	175,164,207	46 5 1	6·15

Purposes for which debts of Australasian Colonies were contracted.

90. The major portion of the public debt of each of the Australasian Colonies was contracted for the purpose of railway construction, but smaller amounts were borrowed for water supply, immigration, electric telegraphs, harbour and defence works, roads and bridges, school-houses, and other public works. Up to the end of 1889, New South Wales had borrowed a larger amount for railway construction than any other Colony, the amount being nearly 31,400,000*l.* as against 29,000,000*l.* borrowed for the same purpose by Victoria, nearly 15,400,000*l.* by Queensland, not quite 14,000,000*l.* by New Zealand, and nearly 11,400,000*l.* by South Australia. Victoria has borrowed more for water supply than any other Colony, the total amount being 5,600,000*l.*, as against 4,100,000*l.* borrowed by New South Wales, and 3,300,000*l.* borrowed by South Australia, for the same object. No portion of the public debt of Victoria, South Australia, or Western Australia has been contracted for the promotion of immigration, but up to the end of 1889 Queensland and New Zealand had borrowed over two and a half and over two millions respectively for immigration purposes, whilst New South Wales and Tasmania had borrowed considerably smaller sums.

Order of Colonies in respect to

91. Ninety-four per cent. of the Victorian public debt was incurred for the purpose of being expended upon revenue-producing public works, which is a larger proportion than in any

of the other Colonies. This is shown by the following figures, which give the proportion so incurred in each Colony:— VICTORIA. borrowings for reproductive works.

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportion of Debt incurred for reproductive Works.

	per cent.
1. Victoria - - - -	94·43
2. New South Wales - - -	83·40
3. South Australia - - -	82·86
4. Western Australia - - -	75·68
5. Tasmania - - - -	72·73
6. Queensland - - - -	69·95
7. New Zealand - - - -	41·46

92. The total indebtedness of Great Britain and her dependencies reaches to about 1,166 millions sterling; 690 millions, or nearly three fifths, of this amount is owing by Great Britain herself; 206½ millions by India; 175 millions, or one-seventh of the whole, by the Australasian Colonies; and the remainder, 94½ millions, by Canada, the Cape of Good Hope, and other British Colonies. Indebtedness of British dominions.

93. In Australasia, taken as a whole, the indebtedness, in proportion to population, is more than two and a half times as large as that of the United Kingdom, which in this respect is far above any of its other dependencies. As regards individual Colonies, the indebtedness per head of Queensland is more than, and that of New Zealand or South Australia is nearly three and a half times as large as, the indebtedness per head of the United Kingdom, whilst that of New South Wales is more than, and that of Victoria is nearly, twice as large. The three first-named Colonies are, in proportion to population, by far the most heavily indebted countries in the world. It may be observed that the indebtedness per head of Canada is only a fourth of that of Australasia. Indebtedness per head of British dominions.

94. In proportion to revenue, the debt of the United Kingdom is much larger than that of any of her dependencies; but with the exception of the United Kingdom and Canada, there is no portion of the British dominions in which the debt is so high a multiple of its revenue as the united debts of the Australasian Colonies are of their united revenues. Proportion of debts to revenues of British dominions.

95. The public debt of the United Kingdom is larger than that of any other country in the world except France, which is the larger by 575,000,000*l*. Next to these countries in point of indebtedness are Austria, Hungary, Russia, Italy, Germany, the United States, Turkey, Spain, and British India, in the order named. These are the only countries which have larger debts than the present united debts of the Australasian Colonies. Gross amount of debt in different countries.

96. In proportion to population the most heavily indebted independent countries are France and Portugal, which are, however, in this respect, far behind all the Australasian Colonies. The debt per head in the United Kingdom is much smaller than in Portugal and France, is also less than in Holland, but is larger than in any other country outside Australasia. Amount of debt per head in different countries.

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Proportion of debt to revenue in different countries.

97. Turkey is, with the exception of Peru, which appears to be irredeemably involved, very much more heavily indebted in proportion to its revenue than any other country. The debts of those countries, and of Portugal, France, Egypt, Greece, Holland, and Austria-Hungary, are all larger in proportion to their revenues than the debt of the United Kingdom is to its revenue. The united debts of the Australasian Colonies are smaller in proportion to their united revenues than the debts of Canada, Spain, Italy, Roumania, Brazil, Tunis, Belgium, or Russia, as well as those of the countries previously so mentioned are to their respective revenues.

Objects of Australasian and other debts.

98. In comparing the indebtedness of the Australasian Colonies with that of other countries, it cannot be too distinctly borne in mind that whereas the latter was mainly incurred for war purposes, the former was, as already pointed out, almost entirely contracted for the construction of railways, water supply, and other works which aid materially in the opening up and development of the country.

Marriages, 1890.

99. The marriages returned to the Registrar-General in 1890 numbered 9,187, as against 9,194 in the previous year. There was thus an excess of seven in favour of 1889.

Marriages, 1890 and former years.

100. The marriages returned in 1889 and 1890 were more numerous than those in any previous year. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made which has been more than sustained since. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; in 1884, they exceeded 7,000; in 1888, they nearly realised 9,000; in 1889 and 1890, they exceeded that number by nearly 200.

Marriage rate.

101. The proportion which the number of marriages bears to the total population is generally called the marriage rate. This for many years was declining in Victoria, for, whilst in the three years prior to 1863 it was above 8 per 1,000 of both sexes, and all ages; from 1863 to 1865 it was between 7 and 8, and between 1868 and 1878 it was between 6 and 7 per 1,000. It reached its lowest point, viz., 5·98 per 1,000, in 1879; then gradually revived, until in 1888 it reached the maximum of the last 31 years, viz., 8·5 per 1,000. Since 1888 it has slightly declined, and in 1890 it was at the rate of 8·21 per 1,000, which was still higher than in any other year since 1859, except 1889, 1888, 1862, and 1861.

Births, 1890.

102. The births registered in Victoria during 1890 numbered 37,578, as against 36,359 in 1889. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 1,219.

Births, 1890 and former years.

103. During the 20 years ended with 1883, the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which has continued during the six subsequent years, the number of births in 1890 being the highest ever recorded.

Birth rate.

104. In proportion to population, the births decreased steadily for a number of years. The lowest point was reached in 1882, since which year there has been a gradual improvement, the birth rate in 1890 having been 33·6 per 1,000 persons living, which was higher than it had been in any year since 1876.

Deaths, 1890.

105. The deaths registered in 1890 numbered 18,012, as against 19,392, in 1889. The decrease in the year under notice was thus 1,380, or 7 per cent.

Deaths, 1890 and former years.

106. In 1889 for the first time, the deaths exceeded 19,000, and although the deaths in 1890 did not reach that number, they were more numerous than those in any other previous year. In 1887 and 1888 they did not much exceed 16,000, in 1886 they numbered less than 15,000, but in only one prior year, viz., 1875, did they reach that number. The high mortality in the last-named year, in which 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form.

Excess of births over deaths.

107. The births in 1890 exceeded the deaths by 19,566 or 109 per cent., the corresponding proportion being 88 per cent. in the previous year. The proportion in 1890 was exceeded in all but 10 of the previous 24 years. In the 10 years ended with 1890, the proportion averaged 107 per cent., and in the 10 years ended with 1880, it averaged 119 per cent.; whilst during the whole period of 25 years ended with 1890, the average was 117 per cent. The following were the births and deaths in each of those 25 years, and the excess of the former over the latter:—

Excess of Births over Deaths, 1866 *to* 1890.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
			Numerical.	Centesimal.
				Per cent.
1866 - -	25,010	12,286	12,724	104
1867 - -	25,608	11,733	13,875	118
1868 - -	27,243	10,067	17,176	171
1869 - -	26,040	10,630	15,410	145
1870 - -	27,151	10,420	16,731	161
1871 - -	27,382	9,918	17,464	176
1872 - -	27,361	10,831	16,530	153
1873 - -	28,100	11,501	16,599	144
1874 - -	26,800	12,222	14,578	119
1875 - -	26,720	15,287	11,433	75
1876 - -	26,769	13,561	13,208	97
1877 - -	26,010	12,776	13,234	104
1878 - -	26,581	12,702	13,879	109
1879 - -	26,839	12,120	14,719	121
1880 - -	26,148	11,652	14,496	124
1881 - -	27,145	12,302	14,843	121
1882 - -	26,747	13,634	13,113	96
1883 - -	27,541	13,006	14,535	112
1884 - -	28,850	13,505	15,345	114
1885 - -	29,975	14,364	15,611	109
1886 - -	30,824	14,952	15,872	106
1887 - -	33,043	16,005	17,038	106
1888 - -	34,503	16,287	18,216	112
1889 - -	36,359	19,392	16,967	88
1890 - -	37,578	18,012	19,566	109
Total in 25 years	712,327	329,165	383,162	117

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Years in which births doubled deaths.

108. It will be noticed that the births more than doubled the deaths in all the years except 1875, 1876, 1882, and 1889.

Natural increase of population.

109. During the 10 years 1881–90, the population of Victoria increased at the average rate of 1·66 per cent. by excess of births over deaths, at which rate, irrespective of immigration, the population would double itself in 42 years. The rates varied from a minimum of 1·49 in 1882 to a maximum of 1·77 in 1890, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Increase of Population by Excess of Births over Deaths, 1881 *to* 1890.

	Per cent.
1881	1·73
1882	1·49
1883	1·62
1884	1·67
1885	1·65
1886	1·64
1887	1·70
1888	1·76
1889	1·58
1890	1·77
Mean	1·66

Deaths of males and females.

110. In Victoria, deaths of males in 1890 numbered 10,369, and deaths of females, 7,643. These numbers furnish a proportion of nearly 75 females to every 100 males, as against a proportion of 74 females to every 100 males in the 10 years 1881–90, and of 75 to every 100 in the 10 years 1871–80. Females in the total population were in the proportion of 90 to every 100 males, during 1890 and the last decennial period, and 87½ during the preceding decennium; therefore at each period more males and fewer females died than their relative numbers in the population might have given reason to expect.

Death rate.

111. In 1890 males died in the proportion of 17·6, and females in the proportion of 14·4 per 1,000 of their respective numbers living. Taking the two sexes together, the proportion of deaths was 16·1 per 1,000 persons living.

Meteorological observations.

112. The following are the results of meteorological observations taken at Melbourne during each of the 27 years ended with 1890:—

Meteorological Observations at Melbourne—Return for Twenty-seven Years.

(Observatory 91·3 feet above the Sea-level.)

Year.	Temperature in the Shade.			Mean Atmospheric Pressure.	Days on which Rain fell.	Amount of Rainfall.	Mean Relative Humidity.	Mean Amount of Cloud.
	Max.	Min.	Mean.					
	°	°	°	Inches.	No.	Inches.	0–1.	0–10.
1864 -	96·6	30·5	57·1	29·94	144	27·40	·72	6·1
1865 -	103·4	30·9	56·5	29·94	119	15·94	·68	5·6
1866 -	108·2	28·0	57·8	29·95	107	22·41	·70	5·5
1867 -	108·4	29·7	57·7	29·92	133	25·79	·72	5·7
1868 -	110·0	27·4	57·1	29·98	120	18·27	·70	5·7
1869 -	108·4	27·0	57·2	29·94	129	24·59	·71	6·0
1870 -	109·0	29·6	57·4	29·93	129	33·76	·74	5·8
1871 -	106·0	32·1	57·7	29·93	125	30·17	·74	5·9
1872 -	103·3	32·5	57·6	29·92	136	32·52	.74	6·4
1873 -	102·4	30·2	58·0	29·94	134	25·61	·72	6·0
1874 -	102·7	29·3	56·6	29·93	134	28·10	·72	6·1
1875 -	110·4	31·1	56·6	29·89	158	32·87	·72	6·2
1876 -	110·7	29·0	57·0	29·93	134	24·04	·70	5·8
1877 -	100·7	31·0	56·7	29·99	124	24·10	·70	5·8
1878 -	103·4	31·1	57·4	29·90	116	25·36	·71	6·0
1879 -	106·0	30·5	56·8	29·93	127	19·28	·71	5·8
1880 -	106·5	29·0	57·8	29·92	147	28·48	·72	6·0
1881 -	99·9	31·9	57·1	29·97	134	24·08	·68	5·9
1882 -	110·5	31·5	57·4	29·90	131	22·39	·68	5·6
1883 -	104·9	31·7	58·0	29·92	130	23·71	·69	5·9
1884 -	100·7	29·9	56·7	29·94	128	25·85	·71	6·2
1885 -	101.6	29·9	57·1	30·00	123	26·94	·71	6·3
1886 -	104·1	28·1	57·1	29·96	128	24·00	·71	6·0
1887 -	104·9	33·0	58·1	29·94	153	32·39	·74	6·1
1888 -	104·0	28·3	57·5	29·99	123	19·42	·71	5·5
1889 -	99·8	31·3	58·5	29·94	125	27·14	·71	5·8
1890 -	103·4	29·0	58·7	29·92	140	24·24	·72	6·2
Means -	104·8	30·1	57·4	29·94	131	25·51	·71	5·9

Observations in 1890 compared with means.

113. It will be noticed that in 1890, according to observations taken at the Melbourne Observatory, although the maximum and minimum temperature were 1½ and 1 degree respectively below the average, yet the mean temperature was over 1¼ degree above the average; also that, whilst the mean atmospheric pressure was slightly below the rainfall, it was 1¼ inch below the average. The mean relative humidity, however, was above, and the mean amount of cloud much above, the average, whilst the number of wet days was nine more than usual.

Observations in 1890 and former years compared.

114. During the period of 27 years a higher temperature than the maximum of 1890 was experienced in all the years but 12, but a lower one than the minimum in only five of the previous years; moreover, the mean temperature was higher than in any previous year; the days on which rain fell were more

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numerous than in 22 of the years; but the amount of rainfall was lower than in all the years but 11.

Mean temperature in Melbourne and elsewhere.

115. The mean temperature of Melbourne over a series of years (57·4°) corresponds with that of Bathurst, a town in the interior of New South Wales, situated 2,150 feet above the sea-level, and is about equal to that of Washington (56·9°), Bordeaux (57·0°), Madrid (57·2°), and Marseilles (58·3°). It is higher by over two degrees than that of Hobart (55·1°), lower by 5⅓ degrees than that of Sydney (62·5°) and lower by 7⅓ degrees than that of Adelaide (64·6°).

Mean rainfall in Melbourne and elsewhere.

116. The mean rainfall in Melbourne (25·5 in.) corresponds approximately with that of Ventnor in England, and Perth in Western Australia, Goulburn in New South Wales, and Toulouse in France. It is somewhat above that in London, Paris, or Berlin, is 2 inches above that in Hobart, is 4½ inches above that in Adelaide, but is little more than half as much as in Sydney or Brisbane. The following is the average rainfall in some of the principal Australasian towns, and in a few British and foreign towns :—

AVERAGE RAINFALL IN PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

Australasian Towns.

Name of City or Town.	Days' Rain.	Rainfall.	Name of City or Town.	Days' Rain.	Rainfall.
		Inches.			Inches.
Brisbane - -	139	49·37	Melbourne - -	131	25·54
Sydney - -	147	49·17	Perth - -	—	25·00
Newcastle - -	113	46·98	Bathurst - -	73	23·62
Auckland (1888–89) -	168	38·29	Hobart - -	141	23·46
Orange - -	104	37·71	Wagga Wagga -	77	22·73
Dunedin (1888–89) -	144	35·90	Sandhurst - -	111	22·22
Wellington (1888–89)	170	35·68	Adelaide - -	120	21·09
Portland - -	185	33·63	Echuca - -	76	20·73
Belfast - -	163	28·85	Deniliquin - -	64	17·06
Albury - -	80	28·36	Bourke - -	43	16·15
Goulburn - -	84	26·13			

Extra-Australasian Towns.

Name of City or Town.	Rainfall.	Name of City or Town.	Rainfall.
	Inches.		Inches.
Bombay - - -	75	Geneva - - -	32
Lake District of Wales -	75	Rome - - -	31
New York - - -	47	Dublin - - -	30
Boston - - -	45	Brussels - - -	29
Florence - - -	41	Ventnor (England) - -	25½
Washington - - -	41	Toulouse - - -	24¾
Cork - - - -	40	Berlin - - -	24
Naples - - -	39	London - - -	24
Plymouth - - -	39	Paris - - - -	23
Milan - - - -	38	Marseilles - - -	19
Liverpool - - -	37	Madrid - - -	9
Manchester - - -	33		

Royal Mint; gold received.

117. A branch of the Royal Mint was established in Melbourne in 1872. From the time of the opening of the Mint to the end of 1890 upwards of 12 million ounces of gold were received thereat. In point of average purity, the gold sent to the Mint is considerably above the standard (viz., 22 carats, worth 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz.), and thus the value of the whole quantity was rather over 48 millions sterling, or almost exactly 4*l.* per oz. The following table shows the quantity and value of gold received in each year :—

Gold received at the Melbourne Mint 1872 *to* 1890.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Oz.	£
1872 - - - -	190,765	765,024
1873 - - - -	221,904	887,256
1874 - - - -	335,366	1,349,290
1875 - - - -	489,823	1,948,067
1876 - - - -	543,304	2,149,890
1877 - - - -	378,410	1,492,207
1878 - - - -	570,079	2,268,001
1879 - - - -	656,724	2,638,393
1880 - - - -	758,937	3,062,663
1881 - - - -	692,425	2,793,810
1882 - - - -	819,142	3,311,894
1883 - - - -	786,021	3,159,609
1884 - - - -	945,709	3,803,320
1885 - - - -	836,433	3,351,767
1886 - - - -	756,611	3,029,783
1887 - - - -	770,222	3,075,487
1888 - - - -	757,813	3,023,414
1889 - - - -	761,931	3,030,958
1890 - - - -	752,923	3,003,635
Total - - -	12,024,542	48,144,468

Gold issued from Royal Mint.

118. Gold is issued from the Royal Mint as coin or as bullion; the former, with the exception of 555,614 half sovereigns, has consisted entirely of sovereigns. The following is a statement

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of the gold issued in each year, whether in the shape of coin or bullion:—

Gold issued at Melbourne Mint, 1872 to 1890.

Year.	Coin.		Bullion.		Total value of Coin and Bullion.
	Sovereigns.	Half-Sovereigns.	Quantity.	Value.	
	Number.	Number.	Oz.	£	£
1872 -	748,180	—	1,313	4,028	752,208
1873 -	752,199	165,034	3,129	11,126	845,842
1874 -	1,373,298	—	2,912	10,416	1,383,714
1875 -	1,888,405	—	3,553	13,857	1,902,262
1876 -	2,124,445	—	3,625	14,145	2,138,590
1877 -	1,487,316	80,016	3,326	13,004	1,540,328
1878 -	2,171,457	—	3,691	14,640	2,186,097
1879 -	2,740,594	—	1,743	6,839	2,747,433
1880 -	3,053,454	—	1,861	7,219	3,060,673
1881 -	2,325,303	42,009	106,999	448,767	2,795,074
1882 -	2,465,781	107,522	189,837	789,687	3,309,229
1883 -	2,050,450	—	266,679	1,112,478	3,162,928
1884 -	2,942,630	48,009	200,766	835,728	3,802,364
1885 -	2,967,143	11,003	91,335	379,839	3,352,483
1886 -	2,902,131	38,008	25,701	107,719	3,028,854
1887 -	2,856,424	64,013	45,030	186,395	3,074,825
1888 -	2,830,612	—	46,611	194,219	3,024,831
1889 -	2,732,590	—	72,497	299,285	3,031,875
1890 -	2,473,537	—	126,430	527,144	3,000,681
Total -	42,885,949	555,614	1,197,038	4,976,535	48,140,291

Gold coin issued.

119. The difference in value between the gold coin issued from the Mint in 1889 and 1890 was 259,000*l*., the excess being in favour of the former. The gold coin issued in 1890 was less not only than that in 1889, but was also less than that in 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1880, or 1879; it was, however, in excess of that in any other year.

Gold bullion issued.

120. The quantity of gold issued in the form of bullion has fallen off very considerably since 1883. In that year its value amounted to over 1,100,000*l*. or to 35 per cent. of the total value of coin and bullion issued; but in 1890, although in excess of the

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value in the previous five years, it amounted to only 527,000*l.* or something over 17 per cent. of that value.

Number of banks.

121. During 1890 there were 16 banks of issue in Victoria, possessing therein 545 branches or agencies. There were only 11 banks of issue in the Colony both in 1885 and 1880.

Liabilities and assets of banks.

122. The position of the banks as regards liabilities, assets, capital and profits, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the three years just named, was as follows :—

Financial Position of Banks, 1880, 1885, *and* 1890.

——	1880.	1885.	1890.
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Notes in circulation	1,236,046	1,474,809	1,543,340
Bills in circulation	50,987	67,968	142,770
Balances due to other banks	228,776	381,304	245,909
Deposits* not bearing interest	5,735,029	7,765,496	10,814,117
„ bearing interest	12,237,674	22,828,068	29,477,948
Total	19,488,512	32,517,645	42,224,084
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	3,408,961	3,798,154	6,868,328
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	445,674	432,464	314,991
Landed and other property	865,488	1,125,477	1,824,564
Notes and bills of other banks	120,989	164,906	231,382
Balances due from other banks	404,690	440,432	421,849
Debts due to the banks†	18,039,020	33,212,694	51,276,841
Total	23,284,822	39,174,127	60,937,955
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.	£	£	£
Capital stock paid up	9,126,250	8,901,250	13,281,790
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared.	10·391 per cent.	12·595 per cent.	12·277 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared	474,140	560,663	815,330
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend.	2,714,730	3,908,245	6,701,281

* Including Government deposits, the amount of which was not returned in 1880, but in 1885 consisted of 160,284*l.* not bearing interest, and 2,108,151*l.* bearing interest; and in 1890 of 195,689*l.* not bearing interest, and 895,318*l.* bearing interest.

† Including notes, bills of exchange, and all stock and funded debts of every description, except notes, bills, and balances due to the banks from other banks.

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Liabilities and assets of banks.

123. The following table shows the proportion of each item of the liabilities, and of each item of the assets to the total assets of the banks at the same periods :—

Liabilities and Assets of Banks.—Percentage of Items.

—	1880.	1885.	1890.
LIABILITIES.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Notes in circulation	6·34	4·54	3·65
Bills in circulation	0·26	0·21	0·34
Balance due to other banks	1·17	1·17	0·58
Deposits not bearing interest	29·43	23·88	25·61
„ bearing interest	62·80	70·20	69·82
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver and other metals	14·64	9·70	11·26
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	1·91	1·10	0·52
Landed and other property	3·72	2·87	2·99
Notes and bills of other banks	0·52	0·42	0·38
Balance due from other banks	1·74	1·13	0·69
Debts due to the banks	77·47	84·78	84·16
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00

Analysis of bank returns.

The following results are arrived at by analysing the bank returns at the three periods :—

The liabilities amounted to - 83·70 per cent. of the assets in 1880.
83·01 „ „ 1885.
69·29 „ „ 1890.

Coin and bullion formed - 16·55 „ „ 1880.
10·80 „ „ 1885.
11·78 „ „ 1890.

The paid-up capital was equal to - 39·19 „ „ 1880.
22·72 „ „ 1885.
21·79 „ „ 1890.
46·83 „ liabilities in 1880.
27·37 „ „ 1885
31·46 „ „ 1890

Of the moneys deposited - 68·09 „ bore interest in 1880.
74·62 „ „ 1885.
73·16 „ „ 1890

Former periods and 1890 compared.

124. It will be observed that in 1890 the liabilities bore a much lower proportion to the assets than in 1885, or 1880, that coin and bullion bore a much smaller proportion to the assets than in 1880, but a larger proportion than in 1885; that the paid-up capital, which was formerly equal to over one-third of the assets, or nearly half of the liabilities, was, in 1890, equal to less than

one-fourth of the assets, and not quite a third of the liabilities; and that of the moneys deposited a smaller proportion bore interest at the last period than in 1885, but a larger proportion than in 1880.

Coin and bullion in banks.

125. In 1890 the coin and bullion held by the banks increased by 650,000*l.* sterling, as compared with the previous year, and was more by 345,000*l.* than in 1887, when the quantity was the largest ever held previously. The following figures show the value of coin and bullion held by the Victorian banks in the last quarter of 1890, and of each of the previous 14 years:—

Coin and Bullion held by Banks, 1876 *to* 1890.

(Average of the last quarter of each year.)

	£
1876 - - - - -	3,519,377
1877 - - - - -	2,438,657
1878 - - - - -	2,387,972
1879 - - - - -	3,475,345
1880 - - - - -	3,854,635
1881 - - - - -	3,008,491
1882 - - - - -	3,201,733
1883 - - - - -	3,245,472
1884 - - - - -	5,014,749
1885 - - - - -	4,230,618
1886 - - - - -	4,932,940
1887 - - - - -	6,838,719
1888 - - - - -	5,604,097
1889 - - - - -	6,533,037
1890 - - - - -	7,183,319

Bank deposits and advances.

126. In all the years the bank advances exceeded the moneys on deposit. The maximum of excess, viz., all but 11 millions, was reached in 1890; the next largest excess being 10 millions in 1889 and 7¾ millions in 1888. In no other previous years, except 1877 and 1878, did the excess exceed 4½ millions. The enormous increases in the last three years were brought about by the large speculations, chiefly in land, which received a sudden check about the latter part of 1888. The great commercial depression of 1879–80 is indicated by the restriction of advances in 1880, when the excess was as low as 66,000*l.* The chief periods of inflation, as indicated by the advances during the last

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15 years, were the three years 1888 to 1890, as is shown by the figures in the following table:—

DEPOSITS IN AND ADVANCES BY BANKS, 1876 TO 1890.

(*Average of the last quarter of each year.*)

Year.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Government.	Other.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£
1876 -	1,956,619	12,893,529	14,850,148	19,138,461	4,288,313
1877 -	1,148,176	15,355,352	16,503,528	22,493,261	5,989,733
1878 -	422,211	15,684,370	16,106,581	22,430,329	6,323,748
1879 -	1,120,809	15,305,356	16,426,165	20,717,750	4,291,585
1880 -	1,953,241	16,019,462	17,972,703	18,039,020	66,317
1881 -	2,470,880	18,681,030	21,151,910	22,783,420	1,631,510
1882 -	951,809	22,673,284	23,625,093	26,562,427	2,937,334
1883 -	575,058	23,484,111	24,059,169	26,994,137	2,934,968
1884 -	2,147,035	26,270,009	28,417,044	29,487,969	1,070,925
1885 -	2,268,435	28,325,129	30,593,564	33,212,694	2,619,130
1886 -	2,028,687	29,215,785	31,239,472	34,625,144	3,385,672
1887 -	2,899,185	32,316,362	35,215,547	38,034,062	2,818,515
1888 -	2,559,702	35,011,136	37,570,838	45,325,559	7,754,721
1889 -	1,585,834	37,183,102	38,768,936	48,817,112	10,048,176
1890 -	1,091,007	39,201,058	40,292,065	51,276,841	10,984,776

Savings banks.

127. Two kinds of savings banks exist in Victoria, the general savings banks, which were first established in 1842, and the Post Office Savings Banks, which were established in 1865. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having accounts at the dates of balancing in 1890, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates:—

Savings Banks, 1890.

Description of Institution.	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
			Total.	Average to each Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Post Office Savings Banks -	343	104,320	1,956,993	19 2 8
General Savings Banks -	17	177,189	3,266,012	18 8 8
Total - -	360	281,509	7,202,105	18 13 10

Savings banks, 1872 to 1890.

128. In the 19 years, 1872 to 1890, the number of depositors in savings banks has increased more than fourfold. For several years prior to 1880 the amount standing to the credit of the depositors

had been tolerably uniform, but since then a steady increase has taken place, and by 1890 it has risen to over 5¼ millions sterling, or 240,000*l.* more than in the previous year, and over three times the amount in 1880, 10 years previously. The average amount to each depositor was highest in 1872 and lowest in 1887, the proportion of the latter being 16*s.* less than in the year under review. The following is a statement of the number of depositors and the amount remaining on deposit during the period referred to :—

Savings Banks, 1872 *to* 1890.

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
		Total.	Average to each Depositor.
		£	£ *s.* *d.*
1872 - -	52,749	1,405,738	26 13 0
1873 - -	58,547	1,498,618	25 11 11
1874 - -	64,014	1,617,301	25 5 3
1875 - -	65,837	1,469,849	22 6 6
1876 - -	69,027	1,507,235	21 16 9
1877 - -	73,245	1,575,305	21 10 2
1878 - -	76,696	1,510,273	19 13 7
1879 - -	82,941	1,520,296	18 6 7
1880 - -	92,115	1,661,409	18 0 9
1881 - -	107,282	2,569,438	23 19 0
1882 - -	122,584	3,121,246	25 9 3
1883 - -	136,087	2,818,122	20 14 2
1884 - -	152,342	2,981,083	19 11 4
1885 - -	170,014	3,337,018	19 12 7
1886 - -	189,359	3,589,916	18 19 2
1887 - -	206,596	3,696,699	17 17 10
1888 - -	237,433	4,669,541	19 13 4
1889 - -	261,067	5,021,522	19 4 8
1890 - -	281,509	5,262,105	18 13 10

Rate of interest in savings banks.

129. The highest rate of interest savings banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent., which rate was paid in all the years. Interest is allowed on the minimum monthly balance, but not on any amounts which do not remain in the savings banks for a full month.

Male and female depositors.

130. In the General Savings Banks, the male depositors in 1890 numbered 98,807, and the female depositors 78,382, or about 79 of the latter to 100 of the former. In the general population the proportion of females per 100 males is 90, so that relatively to their respective numbers females do not appear to use the savings banks as much as males.

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Small depositors.

131. Nearly four-fifths of the depositors in savings banks have less than 20*l.* to their credit, and over a tenth have between 20*l.* and 50*l.*

Imports, exports, and trade.

132. In 1890 the total declared value of the imports was 22,954,015*l.*, and that of the exports 13,266,222*l.*; the excess of imports over exports was thus 9,687,793*l.*, and the whole value of external trade was 36,220,237*l.*

Imports and exports last two years.

133. The value of imports was lower in 1890 than in 1889 by 1,448,745*l.*, or by 6 per cent., but the value of exports was higher than in that year by 531,488*l.*, or by 4 per cent. The value of the total trade was thus lower than in the previous year by 917,257*l.*

Imports and exports latest and former years.

134. The imports in 1890, as indicated by their values, were higher than in any other year of the Colony's history, except 1888 and 1889; the exports, however, according to the same standard, although higher than in 1889, 1887, and 1886, were exceeded in all but seven of the other 35 years which have elapsed since 1854.

Imports and exports per head.

135. In the year under review, the value per head of imports was 20*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* and the value per head of exports was 11*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*; the total value of external trade per head was thus 32*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* The value of imports per head was much lower than in 1889 or 1888, was about the same as in 1884, but was higher than in any other of the previous 23 years, except 1882, and the three years 1873 to 1875; the value of exports per head was higher than in 1889 or 1887, but lower than in every other year since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales.

Imports and exports, the produce of various countries.

136. The value of the imports into Victoria of articles entered as being the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, of other British dominions, and of foreign States, and the value of the exports from Victoria of articles entered as the produce or manufacture of the same countries, and of the Colony itself, also the per-centage of such values to the total values of imports and exports in 1890, will be found in the following table:—

Imports and Export the Produce of different Countries, 1890.

Articles the Produce or Manufacture of—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£	
Victoria - - -	—	—	10,291,821	77·58
The United Kingdom -	9,637,926	41·99	1,127,642	8·50
Other British possessions -	9,485,951	41·33	1,175,454	8·86
Foreign States - -	3,830,138	16·68	671,305	5·06
Total - -	22,954,015	100·00	13,266,222	100·00

137. The following table gives the total value, and the value per head, of articles of Victorian produce exported, and their proportion to the total exports, in each of the last 24 years :— Export of Victorian produce.

Year.	Exports of Articles produced or manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per head of the Population.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867 - - -	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868 - - -	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869 - - -	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870 - - -	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871 - - -	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872 - - -	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873 - - -	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874 - - -	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875 - - -	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876 - - -	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877 - - -	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878 - - -	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879 - - -	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880 - - -	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881 - - -	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79
1882 - - -	12,570,788	14 2 10	77·63
1883 - - -	13,232,294	14 12 3	81·06
1884 - - -	13,155,484	14 2 4	81·96
1885 - - -	12,452,245	13 0 6	80·06
1886 - - -	9,054,687	9 4 2	76·77
1887 - - -	8,502,979	8 7 6	74·91
1888 - - -	10,356,633	9 16 9	74·76
1889 - - -	9,776,670	8 19 9	76·77
1890 - - -	10,291,821	9 4 6	77·57

138. It should be pointed out that the returns of articles set down as produced or manufactured in Victoria are not always reliable, there being no other evidence as to the origin of such articles than the statements of the shippers, which, it is known, are sometimes made very loosely. It will be seen that the total value of exports of local productions shows a considerable falling off during the last five years as compared with the six previous ones. The worst year was 1887, when such value was lower than in any of the previous 20 years, except 1879, and the value of such exports per head was absolutely the lowest in the whole period; but since then the local export trade has slightly revived, although it is still considerably below the standard of the earlier years. The proportion of exports of home products to the total exports was higher in 1890 than in the great majority of previous years. Decrease of exports of Victorian products.

139. The value in 1890 of imports to Victoria from the neighbouring Colonies was somewhat lower than in 1888 or 1889, but considerably higher than in any other of the previous 10 years. The value of the exports from Victoria to the neighbouring Colonies, which had been steadily increasing up to 1884, has since shown a considerable falling off, and in 1890 was about the same Trade with neighbouring Colonies, 1880 to 1890.

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as in 1889, when it was lower than in any of the previous 10 years, as will be seen by the following figures:—

*Trade between Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies,** 1880 *to* 1890.

Year.	Imports from the neighbouring Colonies.	Exports to the neighbouring Colonies.	Excess in favour of	
			Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1880 - -	6,299,597	4,567,829	1,731,615	—
1881 - -	5,949,730	4,736,442	1,213,288	—
1882 - -	5,914,327	5,225,839	688,488	—
1883 - -	5,658,854	5,744,780	—	85,926
1884 - -	6,475,915	5,826,826	649,089	—
1885 - -	5,652,169	5,633,247	18,922	—
1886 - -	6,254,393	4,108,757	2,145,636	—
1887 - -	7,327,467	4,496,504	2,830,963	—
1888 - -	8,484,559	4,307,017	4,177,542	—
1889 - -	8,539,854	4,022,054	4,517,800	—
1890 - -	8,458,178	4,049,206	4,408,972	—

Imports from other Colonies in excess of exports thereto.

140. It will be observed that Victoria imported from the other Colonies more than she exported thereto in all the years named except 1883, and that the excess of imports in the last two was very much larger than in any other years shown. The figures in the last two columns show the net excess in favour of imports during the 11 years to have amounted to 22,296,389*l.*, or an average of nearly 2,030,000*l.* per annum.

Imports of principal articles.

141. The values of 66 of the principal articles imported in 1890 are as follows:—

Imports of Principal Articles, 1890.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Apparel and slops - - - - - -	428,496
Bags and sacks (including woolpacks) - - - -	196,826
Beer, cider, and perry - - - - - -	320,089
Books - - - - - - - -	268,879
Boots and shoes - - - - - - -	127,286
Butter and cheese - - - - - -	37,166
Building materials - - - - - -	250,283
Carpeting and druggeting - - - - - -	91,442
Coal - - - - - - - -	745,589
Coffee - - - - - - - -	65,388

* Exclusive of Fiji.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Cottons	958,266
Cutlery	45,257
Drugs and chemicals	96,567
Earthenware, brownware, and chinaware	105,944
Fancy goods	54,851
Fish	194,150
Flour and biscuit	11,638
Fruit, (including currants and raisins)	347,443
Furniture and upholstery	73,336
Glass and glassware	153,291
Gloves	126,183
Gold (exclusive of specie)	563,721
Grain, wheat	23,707
„ oats	59,607
„ other (including malt and rice)	91,892
Haberdashery	313,115
Hardware and ironmongery	148,506
Hats, caps, and bonnets	114,852
Hides, skins, and pelts	107,977
Hops	19,125
Hosiery	138,384
Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.)	1,034,112
Jewellery	49,487
Lead ore, pig, pipe, sheet	33,603
Leather, leather-ware and leather-cloth	191,738
Linen piece goods and manufactures	41,116
Live stock	1,997,051
Machinery	348,726
Manufactures of metal	202,651
Matches and vestas	49,900
Meats, (fresh, preserved, and salted)	46,051
Musical instruments	118,526
Nails and screws	24,371
Oil of all kinds	262,049
Oilmen's stores	23,949
Opium	35,736
Paints and colours	80,417
Paper (including paper bags)	298,980
Plated ware	71,408
Sewing machines	54,940
Silks	404,266
Specie, gold	36,282
„ other	66,452
Spirits	487,941
Stationery	94,989
Sugar and molasses	1,208,797
Tea	666,239
Timber	1,288,982
Tin	52,065
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	335,379
Tools and utensils	82,625
Watches, clocks, and watchmaker's materials	81,946
Wine	143,345
Woodenware	48,355
Wool	3,190,298
Woollens and woollen piece goods	785,961
Total	20,217,983
All other articles	2,736,032
Total Imports	22,954,015

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Exports of principal articles.

142. The exports of 50 of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same year:—

Exports of Principal Articles, 1890.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Antimony ore, regulus, &c.	601
Apparel and slops	167,682
Bags and sacks	48,022
Bark	60,411
Bones and bonedust	7,114
Books	61,891
Boots and shoes	37,047
Butter and cheese	66,396
Candles	5,179
Coffee	7,265
Copper ore, regulus, &c.	2,060
Cottons	77,915
Flour and biscuit	393,125
Fruits (including currants and raisins)	51,693
Gold (exclusive of specie)	516,488
Grain, wheat	114,957
„ oats	4,745
„ other (including malt and rice)	32,170
Haberdashery	39,019
Hardware and ironmongery	36,497
Hay, straw and chaff	83,558
Hides	13,717
Horns and hoofs	4,144
Iron, &c.	56,747
Leather, leatherware and leathern cloth	212,910
Live stock	476,717
Machinery	135,965
Manufactures of metals	33,869
Meats, fresh and preserved	24,744
„ salted (including hams and bacon)	9,055
Oil of all kinds	32,188
Onions	27,960
Potatoes	24,787
Silks	40,710
Skins and pelts	159,164
Soap	23,684
Specie, gold	2,223,065
„ silver	13,100
Spirits	89,516
Stationery	36,203
Sugar and molasses	131,988
Tallow	156,851
Tea	367,865
Timber	35,700
Tin, tin ore, black sand	1,737
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	107,928
Travellers' samples	73,367
Wine	63,385
Wool	5,933,699
Woollens and woollen piece goods	65,620
Total	12,389,570
All other articles	876,652
Total Exports	13,266,222

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Excess of imports over exports, &c., 1837 to 1890.

143. In 35 out of 54 years ended with 1890, the value of imports to Victoria exceeded that of exports therefrom, but in the other 19 years the value of exports was the greater. The following is a statement of the amounts by which the imports exceeded the exports in those years in which the excess was in favour of the former, and the amounts by which the exports exceeded the imports in those years in which the excess was in the opposite direction; also the net excess of imports during the whole period :—

Imports in excess of Exports, and the Contrary,
1837 *to* 1890.

Year.	Imports in Excess of Exports.	Exports in Excess of Imports.
	£	£
1837	103,201	—
1838	45,232	—
1839	127,038	—
1840	306,507	—
1841	164,094	—
1842	78,644	—
1843	—	66,446
1844	—	105,785
1845	—	215,304
1846	—	109,640
1847	—	230,815
1848	—	301,683
1849	—	275,495
1850	—	296,871
1851	—	366,472
1852	—	3,381,807
1853	4,781,093	—
1854	5,883,847	—
1855	—	1,485,399
1856	—	527,491
1857	2,176,697	—
1858	1,119,040	—
1859	1,755,032	—
1860	2,131,026	—
1861	—	296,154
1862	448,365	—
1863	552,431	—
1864	1,076,431	—
1865	106,789	—
1866	1,882,165	—
1867	—	1,050,347
1868	—	2,273,328
1869	444,636	—
1870	—	14,256
1871	—	2,215,825
1872	—	179,873
1873	1,231,402	—
1874	1,512,876	—
1875	1,918,909	—
1876	1,508,867	—
1877	1,204,617	—
1878	1,236,173	—
1879	2,581,368	—
1880	—	1,397,665
1881	466,418	—

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Year.	Imports in Excess of Exports.	Exports in Excess of Imports.
	£	£
1882 - -	2,554,502	—
1883 - -	1,344,983	—
1884 - -	3,151,168	—
1885 - -	2,492,846	—
1886 - -	6,735,254	—
1887 - -	7,671,006	—
1888 - -	10,118,371	—
1889 - -	11,668,026	—
1890 - -	9,677,783	—
Total - -	90,257,828	14,790,656
Deduct excess of exports -	14,790,656	—
Net excess of imports -	75,467,172	—

Balance of trade in 54 years.

144. It will be observed that in the 54 years of which mention is made in the table the imports exceeded the exports by 75,500,000*l.*, or an average of about 1,400,000*l.* per annum, which excess, it should be mentioned, would be added to if the value of the British and foreign built ships placed on the register of Victoria were included with the imports, but diminished if freight, which is included in the value of imports, were also added to the exports.

Vessels inwards and outwards.

145. The number of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports in 1890 was smaller by 808 than in 1889, and by 421 than in 1888, but larger than in any other former years; the tonnage in 1890 was less by 235,837 than in 1889, but slightly more than in 1888, and considerably larger than in any other year. The following table contains a statement of the number, tonnage, and crews of vessels inwards and outwards during the 22 years ended with 1890:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared, 1868 *to* 1890.

Year.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			Total Entered and cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1868 -	2,067	653,562	33,613	2,172	685,207	35,332	4,239	1,338,769
1869 -	2,320	721,274	35,628	2,334	730,961	35,696	4,654	1,452,235
1870 -	2,003	682,7[illegible]	[illegible]	2,267	651,[illegible]	33,836	4,280	1,344,862
1871 -	2,137	663,042	33,789	2,257	692,023	35,050	4,394	1,355,025
1872 -	2,104	666,356	33,551	2,234	694,426	35,353	4,338	1,360,762
1873 -	2,187	756,103	36,207	2,226	762,912	36,216	4,413	1,519,015
1874 -	2,100	777,110	36,834	2,122	792,509	36,472	4,222	1,569,619
1875 -	2,171	840,386	38,681	2,023	833,499	38,454	4,394	1,673,885

Year.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			Total Entered and cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1876 -	2,086	810,062	38,960	2,150	847,026	39,600	4,236	1,657,088
1877 -	2,192	939,661	43,928	2,219	935,324	43,786	4,411	1,874,985
1878 -	2,119	951,750	43,082	2,173	961,677	43,391	4,292	1,913,427
1879 -	2,084	963,087	43,676	2,083	977,135	43,648	4,167	1,940,222
1880 -	2,076	1,078,885	51,585	2,115	1,101,014	52,153	4,191	2,179,899
1881 -	2,125	1,219,231	54,792	2,123	1,192,671	54,521	4,248	2,411,902
1882 -	2,089	1,319,093	55,814	2,079	1,341,791	54,855	4,168	2,660,884
1883 -	2,023	1,464,732	61,630	2,064	1,499,579	61,969	4,087	2,964,331
1884 -	1,986	1,569,162	64,488	1,989	1,582,425	64,546	3,975	3,151,587
1885 -	2,154	1,631,263	66,624	2,119	1,628,892	66,201	4,273	3,260,158
1886 -	2,307	1,848,658	73,949	2,324	1,887,329	73,908	4,631	3,735,387
1887 -	2,435	1,920,180	80,918	2,418	1,938,063	79,888	4,853	3,858,243
1888 -	2,724	2,182,071	85,879	2,630	2,125,812	84,233	5,354	4,307,883
1889 -	2,855	2,270,827	89,187	2,886	2,328,351	89,489	5,741	4,599,178
1890 -	2,474	2,178,551	85,918	2,459	2,184,790	87,163	4,933	4,363,341

146. Some idea of the extension of Victorian commerce may be formed from the circumstance that, although the population of the Colony increased by 56 per cent. during the 20 years ended with 1890, the tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in the last as compared with the first year of that period increased more than threefold; also, that whilst the population in the 10 years ended with 1890 increased only 32 per cent. the tonnage in 1890 was twice as great as that in 1880. Increase in shipping.

147. The total number of farm holdings returned in 1890–91 was 36,013 of which 35,066 were in shires and 947 in cities, towns, or boroughs. The land under cultivation was 2,652,768 acres or 25,506 acres more than in the previous year. Farm holdings and number of cultivators.

148. The principal crops grown are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and green forage. The following table shows the extent, of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons:— Land under principal crops.

Land under Principal Crops, 1890 *and* 1891.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1890 - - -	1,178,735	236,496	90,724	47,139	451,546	155,596
1891 - - -	1,145,163	221,018	87,751	53,818	413,052	245,332
Increase -	—	—	—	6,679	—	89,736
Decrease -	33,572	15,478	2,973	—	38,494	—

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Produce of principal crops.

149. The following is a statement of the gross produce of these crops (except green forage, of which no account is kept), in the same two years:—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1890 *and* 1891.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1890 - - -	11,495,720	5,644,867	1,831,132	157,104	666,385
1891 - - -	12,751,295	4,919,325	1,571,599	204,155	567,779
Increase -	1,255,575	—	—	47,051	—
Decrease -	—	725,542	259,533	—	98,606

Average per acre of principal crops.

150. The average produce per acre of these crops was as follows in the last 10 years:—

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1882 *to* 1891.

Year ended March.	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1882 - - -	9·40	24·57	19·07	3·43	1·13
1883 - - -	9·03	26·17	17·35	3·78	1·06
1884 - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	4·01	1·43
1885 - - -	9·52	23·40	17·38	4·16	1·09
1886 - - -	8·99	21·72	17·58	3·83	1·05
1887 - - -	11·49	22·91	22·36	3·41	1·09
1888 - - -	10·81	22·92	23·34	4·11	1·41
1889 - - -	7·10	14·20	15·55	3·04	0·75
1890 - - -	9·75	23·87	20·18	3·33	1·48
1891 - - -	11·14	22·25	17·91	3·79	1·37
Mean - -	11·62	21·00	19·75	3·47	1·24

151. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the recent census, and these are compared in the following table with the numbers enumerated at the census taken 10 years previously :— Live stock, 1881 and 1891.

Live Stock, 1881 *and* 1891.

Census Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
3rd April 1881 -	275,516	329,198	957,069	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936
5th April 1891 -	436,459	395,091	1,387,887	1,782,978	12,736,143	282,457
Increase -	160,943	65,893	430,818	496,711	2,375,858	40,521

152. Besides the live stock returned at the last census, as shown in the table, 68,462 goats, 135 asses, and 78 mules were enumerated in 1881, and 44,482 goats, 139 asses, and 224 mules in 1891. Goats, asses, and mules.

153. There are now in Victoria 5 horses, 20 head of cattle, 145 sheep and 3 pigs, or taking the different kinds together, 173 head of stock of these descriptions, large and small, to the square mile. Stock per square mile.

154 The estimated gross values of agricultural, pastoral, and dairy produce for the year 1890–91 were as follows :— Value of agricultural, pastoral, and dairy produce.

Gross Value of Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairy Produce 1890–91.

	£
Agricultural produce - -	7,771,732
Pastoral „ - - -	10,105,498
Dairy „ - - -	2,912,469
Total - -	20,789,699

155. According to the official returns, the manufactories and works (including stone quarries) in Victoria exceed those in New South Wales by 672, and the hands employed are also more numerous by 11,650. The following are the figures for those Colonies :— Manufactories, works, &c., in Victoria and New South Wales.

Manufactories, Works, &c. in Victoria and New South Wales, 1891*

	Victoria.	New South Wales.
Number of establishments - -	3,291	2,619
Hands employed - - -	58,175	46,525

156. The gold raised in Victoria in 1890 was 588,561 ozs., which is less than the quantity obtained in 1889 by 26,278 ozs., Gold raised, 1888 and 1890.

* For a complete list of manufactories, *see* Digest for 1889, page 70 [C.—6269-3.].

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representing, at 4*l.* per oz., a decreased value of 105,112*l.* The following are the figures for the two years:—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1889 *and* 1890.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
1889 - - -	614,839	2,459,356
1890 - - -	588,561	2,354,244
Decrease - -	26,278	105,112

Gold raised, 1851 to 1890.

157. Carrying on to the end of 1890 the calculations given in previous years, the following may be estimated as the total quantity and value of the gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery about the middle of 1851. The figures give an average per annum during the whole period of about 1,421,000 ozs., which is nearly two and a half times the quantity raised in 1890:—

Estimated Total Quantity and Value of Gold raised in Victoria, 1851 *to* 1890.

Gold raised in Victoria.	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at £4 per oz.
	oz.	£
Prior to 1890 - -	56,250,790	225,003,192
During 1890 - -	588,561	2,354,244
Total - -	56,839,351	227,357,436

University.

158. The Melbourne University, which has been established since 1855, receives an endowment or subsidy from the State of 16,500*l.* per annum. In the Act of Incorporation it is provided that no religious test shall be administered to anyone to entitle him to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the institution. The Council are empowered to grant in any faculty except divinity, any degree, diploma, certificate, or license which can be conferred in any University in the British dominions. A Chair of Music has also been established in connexion with the University, for the endowment of which the Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C., contributed the sum of 20,000*l.* On the 22nd March 1880, the University was thrown open to females, and they can now be admitted to all its corporate privileges. Affiliated to the University are three colleges in connexion with the Church of England, the Presbyterian, and the Wesleyan Church respectively, and named respectively Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's; Ormond College is

named after the late Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C. who contributed 42,000*l.* in his lifetime, and at his death bequeathed a further sum of 40,000*l.*, towards its erection and endowment. The University Hall, built at a cost of about 40,000*l.*, is called the "Wilson Hall," after Sir Samuel Wilson, now a member of the British House of Commons, who contributed the greater portion of the funds for its erection. Since the opening of the University 2,908 students matriculated, and 1,572 degrees were granted, of which 1,238 were direct, and 334 *ad eundem*. The students who matriculated in 1889 numbered 189, and the graduates in the same year numbered 144.

State education.

159. The State education system of Victoria, the basis of which is that secular instruction shall be provided, without payment, for children whose parents may be willing to accept it, but that whether accepted or not, satisfactory evidence must be produced that all children up to the age of 13 are educated up to a given standard, has been most successful in its operation; and for securing the object sought to be obtained, it is believed, compares favourably with that of any other country in the world. In 1872, just before the present system came into operation, the number of children returned as on the rolls of State schools was 136,055, whilst in 1890, after the system had been in force for 17 years, the number had increased to 250,097, or by 81 per cent., the increase of children at the school age in the population during the same period having been only about 20 per cent. Besides the ordinary course of instruction, which is quite elementary, free instruction is also given to a large number of scholars in drill, gymnastics, singing, and drawing; the Kindergarten system of instruction for young children has been introduced; and lectures in cookery and agriculture are also given in some of the principal schools; whilst extra subjects are taught on payment of a small charge.

Exhibitions and scholarships.

160. The higher education for State school scholars is provided for by 200 scholarships, of the annual value of 10*l.*, tenable for three years, which are annually awarded to the most clever and industrious pupils of State schools under 15 years of age, who are selected by competitive examination to enable them to pursue advanced studies at the principal grammar schools, schools of mines, agricultural colleges, or other schools approved of by the Minister. Moreover, for the purpose of enabling the most intelligent of these scholars to finish their education at the University, 11 exhibitions, each of the yearly value of 40*l.*, tenable for four years, are annually awarded for competition amongst the holders of the scholarships.

Private schools.

161. Besides the State schools, which are attended by five sixths of the children under instruction in the Colony, there were in 1891, 790 private schools attended by 40,181 scholars. Some of these private schools are attached to religious denominations, as many as 203, with 21,623 scholars, being connected with the Roman Catholic Church. Six are called colleges or grammar schools, two of which are connected with the Church of England, two with the Roman Catholic, one with the Presbyterian, and one with the Wesleyan Church. In these, as well as in some of the

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other private schools, a very high class of education, quite equal to that obtained in the best public schools in England, is given.

Wages.

162. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1890, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

Wages in Melbourne, 1880, 1885, *and* 1890.

Description of Labour.	1880.	1885.	1890.
1.—Domestic Servants.			
Males.			
Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners - per week, with board and lodging	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Butlers - - - „	—	20*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females.			
Cooks - - - per annum, with board and lodging	35*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Laundresses - - „	30*l.*	35*l.* to 52*l.*	40*l.* to 52*l.*
Housemaids - - „	25*l.* to 35*l.*	25*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Nursemaids - - „	25*l.* to 35*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
General servants - „	30*l.* to 35*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Girls - - - per week, with board and lodging -	—	5*s.* to 8*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.*
2.—Hotel Servants.			
Males.			
Barmen - - - per week, with board and lodging -	20*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Waiters - - - „	25*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Boots - - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s*
Ostlers - - - „	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	17*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Cooks - - - „	25*s.* to 40*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females.			
Barmaids - - per week, with board and lodging -	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Waitresses - - „	12*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Housemaids - - per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks - - - „	50*l.* to 80*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*	50*l.* to 100*l.*
3.—Farm Servants.			
Males.			
Ploughmen - - per week, and found	20*s.* to 21*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Farm labourers - - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Milkmen for dairies - „	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*

Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
3.—FARM SERVANTS—*cont.*				
***Males*—cont.**				
Cheesemakers	per week, and found	—	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Reapers	per acre, and found	7*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mowers	„	4*s.* to 6*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Threshers	per bushel, and found	5*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*	5*d.* to 7*d.*
Cooks	per annum, and found	50*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females.				
Dairymaids	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Cooks	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
General servants	„	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Hop-pickers	per bushel	—	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*
Maize-pickers	per bag	—	6*d.*	6*d.*
Married couples (generally useful)	per annum, with board and lodging	60*l.* to 70*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	60*l.* to 80*l.*
4.—STATION SERVANTS.				
Males.				
Boundary riders	per annum, with rations	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*	40*l.* to 60*l.*
Shepherds	„	40*l.* to 50*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*	36*l.* to 52*l.*
Stockmen	„	60*l.* to 70*l.*	55*l.* to 75*l.*	50*l.* to 75*l.*
Hutkeepers	„	26*l.* to 40*l.*	26*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Cooks	„	45*l.* to 55*l.*	50*l.* to 60*l.*	60*l.* to 70*l.*
Labourers	per week, with rations	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Drovers	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Sheepwashers	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	12*s.* to 15*s.*	12*s.* to 15*s.*	15*s.* to 16*s.*
Females.				
Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	45*l.* to 55*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*	30*l.* to 50*l.*
General servants	„	18*l.* to 40*l.*	20*l.* to 40*l.*	30*l.* to 45*l.*
Married couples	per annum, with rations	70*l.* to 90*l.*	60*l.* to 90*l.*	70*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—WORKERS IN BOOKS, &c.				
Printers—				
Compositors	per 1,000	1*s.*	1*s.* 1*d.*	1*s.* 2*d.*
Machinists	per week	—	—	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*
Lithographers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Binders	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Paper rulers	„	3 to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)	„	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*

Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
6.—IN WATCHES, JEWELLERY, AND PRECIOUS METALS.				
Watchmakers	per week	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Manufacturing jewellers	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Enamellers	„	6*l.* to 8*l.*	6*l.* to 8*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
7.—IN METALS OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER.				
Blacksmiths	per day	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Furriers, firemen	per week	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ floormen	„	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Hammermen	per day	7*s.* to 8*s.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Turners	„	10*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 13*s.*	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	„	11*s.* to 13*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Riveters	„	9*s.* to 11*s.*	9*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Moulders	„	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Galvanizers	„	3*l.*	3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	„	3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.*
8.—IN CARRIAGES AND HARNESS.				
Smiths	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Bodymakers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Wheelers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Painters	per day	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*
Trimmers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vycemen	„	25*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Saddlers	„	2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*
9.—WORKERS IN SHIPS AND BOATS.				
Sailors—				
Sailing vessels	per month, and found	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*	3*l.* 10*l.* to 5*l.*
Steamships	„	6*l.*	6*l.*	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day	13*s.*	12*s.* to 13*s.*	13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	per hour	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*
10.—IN HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.				
Masons	per day	10*s.* to 11*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Bricklayers	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Slaters	„	10*s.*	12*s.*	10*s.*
Carpenters	„	10*s.*	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.*
Labourers	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Painters and glaziers	„	9*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*	8*s.* to 9*s.*

Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
11.—In Furniture, &c.				
Cabinetmakers	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Upholsterers	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
Polishers	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Coopers	per day	10*s.*	10*s.*	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—In Dress.				
Tailors	per hour	10*d.* to 1*s.*	10*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.*
„	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
„ in factories	„	2*l.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Mantlemakers	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	13*s.* to 30*s.*
Milliners—				
First class	„	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.*	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Second class	„	35*s.*	35*s.*	15*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Dressmakers	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen	„	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Bootmakers	riveting children's boots, per pair	6*d.*	6*d.*	5*d.*
„	riveting boys' boots, per pair	10*d.*	10*d.*	9*d.*
„	riveting women's boots, per pair	1*s.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
„	riveting men's boots, per pair	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*
„	making wellingtons to order	10*s.*	10*s.*	10*s.*
„	making elastics to orders	7*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 8*s.*
„ Machinists	per week	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 30*s.*	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Hatters—				
Bodymakers	per dozen	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 22*s.*	10*s.* to 22*s.*
Finishers	„	12*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*	12*s.* to 24*s.*
Shapers	„	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*
Crown sewers	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Trimmers	„	6*s.*	6*s.*	6*s.* to 9*s.*
Clothing Factories—				
Tailoresses	per week	20*s.* to 35*s.*	12*s.* 6*d* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Pressers	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Shirtmakers	„	12*s.* to 20*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists	„	15*s.* to 30*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*	20*s.* to 35*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* 10*s.*
13.—In Food and Drink.				
Bakers—				
Foremen	per week	3*l.*	3*l.*	3*l.*
Second hands	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 2*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*

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Description of Labour.		1880.	1885.	1890.
13.—In Food and Drink—*cont.*				
Butchers—				
Shopmen - -	per week	35*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*	30*s.* to 40*s.*
Slaughtermen - -	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
Boys - - -	per week, with board	12*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Small-goods men -	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.*	1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Maltsters - -	per week	—	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
14.—In Animal Substances.				
Curriers - - -	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners - - -	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*	38*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen - -	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen - -	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers - -	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 3*l.*	1*l.* 16*s.* to 3*l.*	1*l.* 16*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
15.—In Stone, Clay, &c.				
Brickmakers - -	per 1,000	13*s.* to 20*s.*	18*s.* to 20*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Navvies - - -	per day	6*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Quarrymen - -	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*
Labourers - -	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*	6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Stonebreakers -	per cubic yard	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 4*s.*
16.—In Mines.				
General managers -	per week	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*	—
Legal „ -	„	10*s.* to 5*l.*	10*s.* to 5*l.*	—
Mining „ -	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.*	—
Engineers - -	„	2*l.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 5*l.*	—
Engine-drivers - -	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	—
Pitmen - - -	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.*	—
Blacksmiths - -	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*	—
Carpenters - -	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.*	—
Foremen of shift -	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 3*l.*	—
Miners - - -	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	—
Surfacemen (labourers)	„	1*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*	—
Boys - - -	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	15*s.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*	—
Chinese - - -	„	10*s.* to 2*l.*	12*s.* to 36*s.*	—

Prices.

163. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows at the same three periods. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c., is naturally somewhat higher, and that

of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne :—

Prices in Melbourne, 1880, 1885, *and* 1890.

Articles.		1880.	1885.	1890.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.				
Wheat - - -	per bushel	3*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 2*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Barley - - -	„	2*s.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*	2*s.* 9*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*
Oats - - -	„	1*s.* 10*d.* to 3*s.*	2*s.* 4*d.* to 3*s.* 5*d.*	2*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Maize - - -	„	2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 7*d.*	4*s.* to 5*s.* 2*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*
Bran - - -	„	9*d.* to 1*s.*	11*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	7½*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Hay - - -	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.*	3*l.* to 7*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.* 15*s.*
Flour, first quality -	„	8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 10*l.* 15*s.*	7*l.* 10*s.* to 9*l.* 10*s.*	10*l.* to 13*l.* 15*s.*
Bread - - -	per 4 lb. loaf	5*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*	4½*d.* to 6*d.*
GRAZING PRODUCE.				
Horses—				
Draught - -	each	14*l.* to 58*l.*	20*l.* to 60*l.*	10*l.* to 43*l.*
Saddle and harness -	„	5*l.* to 50*l.*	8*l.* to 45*l.*	6*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.*
Cattle—				
Fat - - -	„	6*l.* to 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*	7*l.* to 16*l.*	4*l.* 10*s.* to 16*l.* 15*s.*
Milch cows - -	„	3*l.* to 10*l.* 10*s.*	5*l.* to 12*l.*	3*l.* to 15*l.*
Sheep, fat - -	„	5*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 19*s.*	6*s.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*
Lambs, fat - -	„	4*s.* to 9*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* 6*d.* to 13*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*
Butchers' meat—				
Beef, retail - -	per lb.	2½*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 8*d.*	3½*d.* to 10*d.*
Mutton „ - -	„	1½*d.* to 5*d.*	1½*d.* to 5*d.*	2*d.* to 5*d.*
Veal „ - -	„	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*	5*d.* to 9*d.*
Pork „ - -	„	6*d.* to 8*d.*	7*d.* to 9*d.*	7*d.* to 9*d.*
Lamb „ - -	per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
DAIRY PRODUCE.				
Butter - - -	per lb.	6*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 3*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 10*d.*
Cheese - - -	„	5*d.* to 10*d.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Milk - - -	per quart	4*d.* to 3*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.*
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.				
Geese - - -	per couple	6*s.* to 10*s.*	7*s.* to 15*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Ducks - - -	„	5*s.* to 8*s.*	5*s.* to 9*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*
Fowls - - -	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.*	3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*
Rabbits - - -	„	9*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Pigeons - - -	„	1*s.* to 3*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Turkeys - - -	each	5*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	7*s.* to 15*s.*	5*s.* to 15*s.*
Sucking pigs - -	„	10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	8*s* to 15*s.*

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Articles.		1880.	1885.	1890.
FARM-YARD PRODUCE—*cont.*				
Bacon	per lb.	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Ham	„	10*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	1*s.* to 2*s.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.				
Potatoes—Wholesale	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 5*s.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 8*l.*
Retail	per cwt.	4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.*
Onions, dried	„	5*s.* to 14*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.*	4*s.* to 12*s.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches	6*d.* to 9*d.*	6*d.* to 9*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Turnips	„	3*d.* to 8*d.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 2*s.*
Radishes	„	3*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* o 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Cabbages	per doz.	3*d.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* to 6*s.*	1*s.* to 4*s.*
Cauliflowers	„	9*d.* to 4*s.*	2*s.* to 7*s.*	1*s.* to 5*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.*	1*s.* to 2*s.*	6*d.* to 2*s.*
Green peas	per lb.	1*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea	per lb.	8*d.* to 2*s.* 3½*d.*	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	6*d.* to 2*s.*
Coffee	„	8*d.* to 1*s.*	1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Sugar	„	3*d.* to 5*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2*d.* to 3*d.*
Rice	„	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*
Tobacco	„	2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*	3*s.* to 6*s.*	1*s.* 11*d.* to 5*s.*
Soap, Colonial	„	2*d.* to 3½*d.*	3*d.* to 4*d.*	2½*d.* to 4*d.*
Candles—Sperm	„	9*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 1*s.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*
Salt	„	1*d.*	1*d.*	1*d.*
Coals	per ton	28*s.* to 40*s.*	25*s.* to 36*s.*	26*s.* to 60*s.*
Firewood	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*	9*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*	9*s.* to 16*s.*
WINES, SPIRITS, &c.				
Ale	per doz.	8*s.* to 11*s.*	5*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 11*s.*
Porter	„	7*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* to 12*s.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy	per gall.	21*s.* to 33*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*	22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*
Rum	„	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Whisky	„	17*s.* 6*d.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*	18*s.* to 28*s.*
Geneva	per case 15 bottles	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*
Port wine	per doz.	35*s.* to 70*s.*	33*s.* to 72*s.*	35*s.* to 80*s.*
Sherry	„	35*s.* to 70*s.*	35*s.* to 75*s.*	33*s.* to 80*s.*
Claret	„	30*s.* to 65*s.*	32*s.* 6*d.* to 70*s.*	18*s.* to 95*s.*
Champagne	„	75*s.* to 100*s.*	70*s.* to 105*s.*	33*s.* to 115*s.*
Colonial wine	„	12*s.* to 28*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*	12*s.* to 30*s.*

164. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned, in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1890–91."

Victoria Year Book.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

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* This is an official publication by the Government Statist, published annually, and may be obtained from the Government printer, Melbourne, the Agent General of Victoria, 8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, or Trübner & Co., 57 and 59, Ludgate Hill, London.

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No. 69.

VICTORIA.

(For Digest for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 36.)

The EARL OF HOPETOUN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Melbourne,
December 2, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of Victoria for the year 1891.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOPETOUN.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., P.C.
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1891, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

1. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1891 was as follows:— Population, 1891.

Estimated Population, 31st December 1891.

Males - - - -	606,035
Females - - -	551,643
Total - -	1,157,678

2. This estimate shows an increase during the year of 24,412, viz., 9,971 males and 14,441 females. The figures have been derived from the numbers returned at the census, worked back to the beginning and on to the end of 1891, by means of the numbers expressing the excess of births over deaths and of arrivals over departures which took place before and after the census day. The official record of births, deaths, and arrivals have been taken as they stand, but the record of departures being known to be defective, an allowance has been made for those unrecorded, which are estimated to have amounted to 4,631, viz., 3,603 males and 1,028 females in 1891. These numbers have accordingly been deducted from the totals. Had no such deductions been made, Mode of forming population estimate.

VICTORIA. 1891.

the apparent population at the end of 1891 would have been 1,162,309, viz., 609,638 males and 552,671 females.

Apparent increase of population in 1891.

3. According to the records of births and deaths, and of immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1891 was 29,150, viz., 14,436 males and 14,714 females. Of this increase, 19,874, consisting of 8,932 males and 10,942 females, resulted from excess of births over deaths; and 9,276, consisting of 5,504 males and 3,772 females, was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

Mean population, 1891.

4. The mean population of the year 1891 may be estimated as follows:—

Estimated Mean Population, 1891.

Males - - - -	600,860
Females - - - -	546,070
Total - -	1,146,930

Urban and rural population.

5. In the following table the area of Victoria is divided into three districts, the first being the metropolitan (Greater Melbourne), extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city; the second, viz., the extra-metropolitan towns, including the total space embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former) outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, viz., the extra-urban or rural, including the remaining portions of the colony. In each of these districts the population is shown as at the end of 1891, as well as the average population during that year, also the ratio of the population of each district to that of the whole colony, and the number of persons to the square mile:—

Urban and Rural Population, 1891.

Districts.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Population, at end of 1891.			Mean Population, 1891.
		Total.	Proportions per Cent.	Persons to the Sq. Mile.	
Towns { Metropolitan -	256	491,942	42·49	1,921	491,700
Towns { Extra Metropolitan	376	194,084	16·76	516	195,940
Total Urban - -	632	686,026	59·25	1,085	687,640
Extra-Urban or Rural -	87,252	471,652	40·75	5·4	459,290
Total of Victoria -	87,884	1,157,678	100·00	13	1,146,930

6. The following table shows the estimated population of each Australasian colony at the end of 1891, the increase of population of each such colony since the census was taken, and the mean population of each during the year:—

Population of Australasian Colonies at end of 1891.

Populations of Australasian Colonies at end of 1891.

Colony.	Estimated Population on 31st December.			Both Sexes.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase since Census (8 Months and 25 Days).	Mean Population, 1891.
Victoria - -	606,035	551,643	1,157,678	17,273	1,146,930
New South Wales -	630,870	534,430	1,165,300	33,066	1,143,580
Queensland - -	232,558	177,772	410,330	16,612	400,713
South Australia -	169,704	156,062	325,766	5,335	322,956
Western Australia -	32,228	21,057	53,285	3,503	51,243
Total - -	1,671,395	1,440,964	3,112,359	75,789	3,065,392
Tasmania - -	80,917	71,702	152,619	5,952	148,955
New Zealand - -	336,174	297,884	634,058	7,400	629,783
Grand total -	2,088,486	1,810,550	3,899,036	89,141	3,844,130

Population of Victoria and New South Wales.

7. It will be remembered that, according to estimates made in New South Wales, the population of that colony, as far back as 1887, was shown to be larger than that of Victoria. The census of 1891, however, revealed the fact that these estimates were erroneous, and Victoria had still the larger population. If the figures in the table relating to New South Wales—which were supplied by the Government of that colony—are correct, it would appear that in consequence of the increase since the census having been, according to the returns, greater there than in this colony, New South Wales is now, in point of population, in advance of Victoria or any other Australasian colony.

Population of Greater Melbourne, 1891.

8. The following table shows the estimated area in acres, the estimated population, and the number of persons to the acre at the end of 1891, also the estimated mean population during that year in the various municipalities comprised in Greater Melbourne:—

VICTORIA. 1891.

Population of Greater Melbourne, 1891.

Sub-districts.	Estimated Area in Acres.	At end of 1891.		Mean Population, 1891.
		Estimated Population.	Persons to the Acre.	
Melbourne City - -	5,020	73,296	14·60	73,340
North Melbourne Town - -	565	21,057	37·27	21,470
Fitzroy City - - -	923	31,453	34·08	32,120
Collingwood City - - -	1,139	34,791	30·55	34,977
Richmond City - -	1,430	36,704	25·67	38,099
Brunswick Town - - -	2,722	21,961	8·07	21,961
Northcote Town - -	2,850	7,100	2·49	7,339
Prahran City - - -	2,320	39,453	17·01	39,620
South Melbourne City - -	2,311	45,570	19·72	43,066
Port Melbourne Borough - -	2,366	12,797	5·41	12,977
St. Kilda City - -	2,046	20,202	9·87	19,959
Brighton Town - - -	3,288	9,887	3·01	9,868
Essendon Town - -	4,000	15,245	3·81	14,689
Flemington and Kensington Borough.	1,088	10,100	9·28	10,005
Hawthorn City - - -	2,389	19,267	8·10	19,479
Kew Borough - -	3,553	8,500	2·39	8,475
Footscray City - - -	3,075	18,253	5·94	18,850
Williamstown Town - -	2,775	16,190	5·83	16,037
Oakleigh Borough - -	2,178	1,250	·57	1,241
Caulfield Shire - -	6,080	8,155	1·34	8,055
Malvern Shire - - -	4,000	8,435	2·10	8,236
Boroondara Shire - -	8,320	6,438	·77	6,282
Preston Shire - - -	8,800	3,466	·39	3,535
Coburg Shire - - -	4,800	5,852	1·22	5,785
Remainder of district - -	84,904	14,555	·17	14,330
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River.	—	1,965	—	1,965
Total, including Shipping -	163,942	491,942	2·99	491,700

Density of metropolitan population.

9. The density of the population of each of the component parts of Greater Melbourne is shown in the fourth column of the table. It will be noticed that the most thickly-peopled municipality is North Melbourne, with rather over 37 persons to the acre; then Fitzroy, with 34; Collingwood, with nearly 31; Richmond, with 26; South Melbourne, with 20; Prahran City, with 17; and Melbourne City with rather less than 15 persons to the acre. In explanation of the fact that some of the suburbs are more densely populated than the city, it will be remembered that large numbers of people who come to business spend their days in the latter, but have their residences, and would therefore be enumerated, in the former. It should also be borne in mind that, in some of the municipalities, extensive parks, gardens, and other public reserves exist, so that the population is really living in closer proximity than the figures indicate. Melbourne City contains 1,723 acres of such reserves; Kew, 634 acres; South Melbourne, 482 acres; Williamstown, 446¼ acres; Flemington and Kensington, 307 acres; St. Kilda, 250 acres; Richmond, 190 acres; Brighton, 166½ acres; Port Melbourne, 80¼ acres; Essendon, 65½ acres; Fitzroy,

41 acres; Collingwood, 39 acres; Footscray, 45¾ acres; and there are smaller reserves in some of the other municipalities. If the reserves be excluded, the persons to the acre in the places named would be as follows:—Fitzroy, 35·7; Collingwood, 31·6; Richmond, 29·6; South Melbourne, 24·9; Melbourne City, 22·2; Flemington and Kensington, 12·9; St. Kilda, 11·25; Williamstown, 7; Footscray, 6; Port Melbourne, 5·6; Essendon, 3·9; Brighton, 3·2; and Kew, 2·9.

Small increase of population, 1891.

10. The growth of the population of Greater Melbourne in the 10 years ended with 1891 was at the rate of nearly 21,000 per annum, but according to estimates carefully prepared by the municipal authorities, this increase has been severely checked, the augmentation between the 5th April and the end of December 1891 being only 1,046, or at the rate of about 1,400 per annum.

Metropolitan populations, 1891.

11. In the following table is shown the area embraced in the metropolis (including suburbs) of each of the Australasian colonies, with the population thereof as enumerated at the last census and estimated at the end of 1891; also the increase of the population of each capital city since the census, the mean population of each during the year, and the density of the population of each at its close:—

Population of Australasian Capital Cities, 1891.

Name of City.	Area in Acres.	Population.		Increase since Census (8 Months and 25 Days).	Mean Population, 1891.	Persons to the Acre (31st Dec. 1891).
		Enumerated (5th April 1891).	Estimated (31st Dec. 1891).			
Melbourne -	163,942	490,896	491,942	1,046	491,700	3·00
Sydney -	86,400	387,434	399,270	11,836	391,379	4·62
Brisbane -	50,240	93,657	—	—	93,657	1·86
Adelaide -	167,680	133,252	132,575	−677	133,026	·79
Perth -	4,830	8,447	10,040	1,593	8,978	2·08
Hobart -	47,560	33,450	33,972	522	33,624	·71
Wellington -	9,032	33,224	33,682	458	33,374	3·72

Increase of population since census.

12. According to the estimates made, Sydney is the only capital city in which any substantial increase of population took place between the date of the census and the end of 1891. It will be noticed that, not only in Sydney but in Perth, the estimated numerical increase of population during the period referred to was greater than in Melbourne.

Density of population in capital cities.

13. It will, moreover, be noticed that the inhabitants of Greater Sydney dwell in greater contiguity than those of any of the other metropolitan cities, and in both that city and Wellington the people are nearer each other than they are in Greater Melbourne, whilst in Adelaide and Hobart there is less than one person to the acre.

Overland migration not recorded.

14. In the following paragraphs the immigration and emigration referred to is by sea only; the results given would probably be

greatly modified if the overland traffic, of which no record is available, were to be taken into account, more especially since the facilities for overland intercourse with the neighbouring colonies have been greatly increased by the extension of railways. The insufficiency of the present returns of immigration and emigration to supply material for supplementing the return of births and deaths, for the purpose of forming estimates of population between the census periods, has more than once been brought under the notice of the Government by the Government Statist, who has suggested that steps should be taken to obtain a record of the arrivals and departures overland; but it seems that difficulties, at present supposed to be insuperable, stand in the way of taking note of such persons, and, therefore, there is no alternative but to leave them out of account altogether. It is evident that, supposing the returns of those who come and go by the seaboard are correct, and the births and deaths are all registered, the population estimates must always understate or overstate the truth, according as the arrivals or the departures overland are the greater.

Returns of arrivals and departures unduly swelled.

15. In consequence of the system pursued in keeping the records of immigration and emigration—the practice being to set down all who pass through Victorian ports on their way to other colonies and countries as both arriving in and departing from this colony—Victoria, being situated between South Australia and Western Australia on the one hand and New South Wales and Queensland on the other, seems always to have an unduly large number of persons coming in and leaving, whereby an impression is created that great numbers come to Victoria, but, being dissatisfied with their prospects in this colony, betake themselves elsewhere. If all are recorded accurately, the result showing those who remain would be correct; still it is to be regretted that some means could not be found of keeping the account without including a number of persons who have had no connexion whatever with the colony, and, perhaps, may have never so much as even landed on its shores.

Immigration and emigration, 1891.

16. The arrivals and departures by sea* recorded during 1891, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow:—

Immigration and Emigration, 1891.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	41,537	20,911	62,448
Departures by sea - - -	36,033	17,139	53,172
Excess of arrivals - -	5,504	3,772	9,276

* All the figures relating to arrivals in the Colony and departures therefrom contain statements of those who come and go by sea only. No attempt is made to keep an account of those who cross the frontier from and to the adjacent Colonies. It has already been mentioned that the number of persons departing by sea is habitually understated.

17. The records of both arrivals and departures show much smaller numbers for 1891 than for 1890, the former by 17,329, and the latter by 10,648; the apparent net gain being less than in 1890 by 6,681, viz., 3,927 males and 2,754 females.

Gain by immigration, 1890 and 1891 compared.

18. The immigration authorities do not note the exact ages of the persons arriving and departing, but classify them as adults, or those from 12 years of age upwards; as children, or those between 1 year of age and 12 years; and as infants, or those under 1 year. The following are the numbers under each of those heads who came and went during 1891:—

Adults and children arriving and departing.

Arrivals and Departures of Adults, Children, and Infants, 1891.

——	Adults.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Arrivals - - - -	57,807	4,131	510	62,448
Departures - - -	47,848	4,586	738	53,172
Immigration in excess -	9,959	−455	−228	9,276

19. In consequence of the practice which exists of recording the ports of original departure and final destination of the ships as being also those of all the passengers, instead of noting the ports at which the respective passengers joined the vessel and those at which they stated their intention of leaving it, much doubt must exist as to the accuracy of the records showing the countries from which persons who arrive in the colony came, and to which those who left it went. The returns, however, as furnished by the immigration authorities, are given for what they may be worth:—

Arrivals from and departures for different countries.

Arrivals from and Departures for different Countries, 1891.

Countries.	Arrivals therefrom.	Departures thereto.	Excess of Immigration.
New South Wales and Queensland -	24,456	20,438	4,018
South and Western Australia -	7,242	7,342	− 100
Tasmania - - - -	18,346	15,217	3,129
New Zealand - - -	4,028	3,313	715
The United Kingdom - -	5,846	4,853	993
Foreign Countries - -	2,530	2,009	521
Total - -	62,448	53,172	9,276

20. The net result of the recorded immigration and emigration by sea between Victoria and the neighbouring Colonies, the United Kingdom, and foreign countries during the last eight months and 27 days of 1881, each of the years 1882 to 1890, the first three months and five days, and the last eight months and twenty-five days of 1891, the whole being the period intervening

Gain by immigration from various countries and *vice versâ*.

VICTORIA. 1891.

between the censuses of 1881 and the end of 1891, is shown in the following table :—

Net Immigration from different Countries, 1881 *to* 1891.

Years.	Immigration from in Excess of Emigration to—						Net Immigration.
	New South Wales and Queensland.	South and Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand and the South Seas.	The United Kingdom.	Foreign Countries.	
1881 (8 months and 27 days).	− 1,327	1,024	1,681	886	3,205	963	6,432
1882 - -	− 2,978	2,929	3,455	165	6,702	607	10,880
1883 - -	− 7,441	2,362	4,500	407	10,276	926	11,030
1884 - -	− 3,647	708	5,332	796	9,863	1,029	14,141
1885 - -	− 7,492	6,136	5,076	1,628	8,875	759	14,982
1886 - -	− 4,479	7,248	5,556	2,694	11,722	2,561	25,302
1887 - -	939	3,991	3,106	1,538	8,813	3,639	22,026
1888 - -	10,517	3,402	8,649	8,475	9,894	866	41,803
1889 - -	− 259	507	5,259	361	10,287	9	16,164
1890 - -	4,034	− 1,422	6,948	1,299	3,502	1,596	15,957
1891 (3 months and 5 days).	2,019	178	2,871	290	− 835	107	4,630
1891 (8 months and 25 days).	1,999	− 278	253	425	1,828	414	4,646
Total -	− 8,115	28,545	52,691	18,964	84,132	13,476	187,993

Net immigration from various countries.

21. It would appear from this table that the Colony gained population from the United Kingdom in all the periods shown, except during the first three months of 1891, when there was a slight loss; that it gained in all the periods from foreign countries, Tasmania and New Zealand; that, moreover, it gained from the western Colonies in all the years except 1890 and 1891, but lost to the eastern ones in all the periods but five, the net loss in that direction being over 8,000 in the 11 years. The largest apparent gain in any one year (42,000) was in 1888, that being the year of the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition; the next largest gain (25,000) was in 1886, when the net immigration was much larger than in any other year except the Exhibition year alluded to. It should be borne in mind that so far as migration by the seaboard is concerned, which is that to which the table refers, the returns inward are fairly correct, whilst those outwards invariably understate the truth, and chiefly for this reason, the recent enumeration of the population, taken in connexion with the registration of births and deaths, revealed the fact that in the recent intercensal period the actual gain by immigration was only 168,000, as against 183,000 shown by the addition of the figures in the last column of the table, omitting those in the last line.

State assisted immigration.

22. In the 12 years 1871 to 1882, 5,547 immigrants from the United Kingdom had free or partially free passages granted them to Victoria. Of these, 3,212, or 58 per cent., arrived in the first

year, and 5,168, or 93 per cent., in the first three years of the period alluded to. The number then declined rapidly from year to year, and since 1873 only 379 such immigrants have arrived. Of these only 5, all females, came in 1880, not one in 1881, and only 2 in 1882. Since 1882 no free or assisted immigrants have been introduced by the State.

Immigration and emigration in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

23. The following table shows the recorded arrivals in and departures from each Australasian colony by sea, and the excess of the former over the latter during the year 1891; the sexes of those who came and who went away being also distinguished:—

Immigration and Emigration Returns of the Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Arrivals.			Departures.			Excess of Arrivals over Departures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - -	41,537	20,911	62,448	36,033	17,139	53,172	5,504	3,772	9,276
New South Wales -	47,057	22,862	69,919	35,415	16,658	52,073	11,642	6,204	17,846
Queensland - -	13,090	5,679	18,769	11,822	5,070	16,892	1,268	609	1,877
South Australia -	11,990	4,694	16,684	9,272	3,535	12,807	2,718	1,159	3,877
Western Australia	4,971	1,375	6,346	2,093	568	2,661	2,878	807	3,685
Total - -	118,645	55,521	174,166	94,635	42,970	137,605	24,010	12,551	36,561
Tasmania - -	18,129	9,186	27,315	14,010	7,223	21,233	4,119	1,963	6,082
New Zealand -	9,427	5,004	14,431	11,396	6,233	17,629	−1,969	−1,229	−3,198
Grand Total -	146,201	69,711	215,912	120,041	56,426	176,467	26,160	13,285	39,445

NOTE.—The figures in this table refer to immigration and emigration by sea only.

Net gain by immigration to Australia and Australasia.

24. The figures in the table indicate the persons going from colony to colony, as well as those arriving from, and departing for, distant countries. The figures in the total and grand total lines of the last three columns, however, ought to show the net gain to the population of Australia and Australasia by immigration. By the last of these columns it is seen that, in 1891, the Australian continent apparently gained nearly 37,000, and the continent, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, apparently gained over 39,000 inhabitants. The corresponding figures for 1890 were 51,139 and 51,804; those for 1889 were 48,802 and 51,688; those for 1888 were 73,844 and 65,599; those for 1887 were 61,732 and 65,041, and those for 1886 were 63,144 and 64,947. Many persons, however, leave all the colonies by sea without their departure being noted; therefore the actual gain from without is always less than the records indicate.

Net gain in Victoria, loss in New Zealand.

25. It will be noticed that the net immigration during the year was very much larger to Victoria than to any other colony of the

group, except New South Wales; also that New Zealand was the only colony in which there was a recorded loss of population by emigration.

Finance account, 1890-91.

26. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Victoria in the financial year ended on the 30th June 1891; the excess of the latter over the former; the credit balance brought forward from 1889–90, and the debit balance carried forward to 1891–92 :—

Finance Account of Victoria, 1890–91.*

(Exclusive of recoups and special expenditure.)

	£	s.	d.
Receipts - - -	8,343,587	18	4
Expenditure - - -	9,128,698	16	9
Expenditure in excess of receipts - - -	785,110	18	5
Credit balance from 1889–90 -	578,268	0	9
Debit balance carried forward to 1891–92 - - -	206,842	17	8

Large debit balance.

27. During the financial year under review, the expenditure exceeded the receipts by 785,111*l.*; but after allowing for the large credit balance brought forward from the previous year, viz., 578,268*l.*, there remains a net debit balance of 206,843*l.* to be carried forward to 1891–92. This is the first debit balance which has occurred during the last ten years.

Accounts placed on sound footing.

28. With reference to this debit balance, however, it should be stated that an exceptionally large amount (nearly 641,000*l.*) was paid during the last two years to wipe out all arrears remaining over from previous years, with a view of placing the accounts upon a sound footing. Thus the expenditure incurred in each of the last four financial years, but charged forward in each case to the subsequent year, was as follows :—507,123*l.* in 1887–88, 658,936*l.* in 1888–89, 153,226*l.* in 1889–90, and 18,258*l.* in 1890–91. As against the last-named amount, however, the Audit Commissioners point out that there is a set-off of 15,498*l.* by amounts received at country revenue offices in June, but not brought to account in the Treasury until July. Thus, all arrears having

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly on the 28th July 1892 by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1891–92 was 7,728,828*l.*, and the expenditure was 8,639,900*l.*, the latter thus exceeding the former by 911,072*l.*, which amount being added to the balance at the beginning of the financial year, leaves a debit balance of 1,117,915*l.*, which, being added to the balance at the debit of the Land Sales by Auction Fund, 416,410*l.* (which it is proposed to charge to the general revenue account), results in a total debit balance of 1,534,325*l.* to be carried forward. The estimated population at about the middle of the same 12 months was about 1,157,678, so that the revenue per head was 6*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, and the expenditure per head 7*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* These figures are not final.

virtually been paid off, the year 1891–92 is practically free from the liabilities of former years. In accordance with established custom, the interest on the public debt is still charged to the year in which it is payable; interest accrued, but not payable until after the close of any year, being charged to the subsequent year. The amount of interest which had accrued in 1890–91, but was not payable until 1st July and 1st October of the ensuing financial year, was 730,992*l.*

Net revenue and expenditure.

29. In the following table the receipts and expenditure, exclusive of advances recouped and to be recouped, are given for each of the 17 financial years ended with 1890–91; also the surplus or deficiency of revenue in each year, and the credit or debit balances carried forward from year to year:—

Net Public Revenue and Net Public Expenditure, 1874–75 *to* 1890–91.

Year.	Excluding Advances Recouped and to be Recouped.			
	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.	Surplus (+). Deficiency (−).	Balances carried forward. Credit (+). Debit (−).
	£	£	£	£
1874–75 -	4,169,700	4,296,649	− 126,949	+ 120,155
1875–76 -	4,325,156	4,394,066	− 68,910	+ 51,245
1876–77 -	4,513,738	4,336,139	+ 177,599	+ 228,844
1877–78 -	4,485,412	4,536,062	− 50,650	+ 178,194
1878–79 -	4,520,277	4,809,724	− 289,447	− 111,253
1879–80 -	4,600,627	4,803,790	− 203,163	− 314,416
1880–81 -	5,115,041	5,100,225	+ 14,816	− 299,600
1881–82 -	5,589,972	5,145,764	+ 444,208	+ 144,608
1882–83 -	5,602,066	5,643,885	− 41,819	+ 102,789
1883–84 -	5,934,578	5,653,293	+ 281,285	+ 384,074
1884–85 -	6,290,361	6,121,564	+ 168,797	+ 552,871
1885–86 -	6,416,406	6,513,540	− 97,134	+ 455,737
1886–87 -	6,733,826	6,561,251	+ 172,575	+ 628,312
1887–88 -	7,607,598	7,287,151	+ 320,447	+ 948,758
1888–89 -	8,675,990	7,919,902	+ 756,088	+ 1,704,846
1889–90 -	8,519,159	9,645,737	− 1,126,578	+ 578,268
1890–91 -	8,343,588	9,128,699	− 785,111	− 206,843

Years of highest and lowest surplus and deficiency, &c.

30. It will be noticed that the gross revenue showed a surplus in eight and a deficiency in nine of the years named. On the whole, the deficiencies were larger than the surpluses, as the credit balance, amounting to 120,000*l.*, carried forward at the end of the first year has disappeared, and its place at the end of the last year has been supplied by a debit balance of 207,000*l.* By far the largest surplus of revenue was in 1888–89, when it exceeded by nearly one-third of a million sterling that in 1881–82, which was the next largest. The credit balance carried forward at the end of 1888–89 was also much larger than that in 1887–88, which in turn was much larger than in any other year. The largest deficiencies of revenue were in 1889–90 and 1890–91, when they exceeded by over 830,000*l.* and nearly 500,000*l.* respectively the deficiency in 1878–79 which was the largest after these.

Changes in source of revenue.

31. No changes were made in the taxation of the people in 1890–91, but several changes, carried out in the previous year, continued to affect the revenue during the year under review. Thus, on the one hand, the Customs duties on tea, coffee, and cocoa, which were either remitted or considerably reduced in 1889–90, showed a further actual loss in 1890–91 of about 26,100*l.*; moreover, duties on several other articles, which were mostly increased, were estimated to, but did not, result in a net further gain of 52,500*l.* to the revenue of the year, on the assumption that the importation of the articles affected would not fall off. As a matter of fact, however, the revenue from customs duties as a whole fell off by over 130,000*l.*, owing partly to some of the duties having become prohibitory, but chiefly to a gradual contraction in the general imports since 1888–89, when they were stimulated partly by the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition held during that year, and partly by the great excitement, which was then at its height, in connexion with land, mining, and other speculations. Moreover, the excise duty on tobacco was reduced (in 1889–90) at an actual loss on the year under review of about 11,000*l.*; and the rate of tonnage dues on vessels was reduced, at a loss of about 9,100*l.* An unforeseen decrease of about 215,000*l.*, as compared with 1889–90, also occurred in the amount received from duties on estates of deceased persons, a source of income which is naturally subject to fluctuations. As regards other sources of revenue, the railways were extended by an average length of 321 miles during the year; and, in consequence, the revenue derivable therefrom might be expected to increase, allowing 1,340*l.* per mile, by about 430,300*l.*

Revenue, 1890-91 and previous years.

32. The revenue of 1890–91 was smaller by 332,000*l.* and 176,000*l.* than the revenues of 1888–89 and 1889–90 respectively; it was, however, much larger than that raised in any year prior to those two. The year in which the next largest revenue had previously been realised was 1887–8, when, however, it was about 736,000*l.* less than in the year under review. In the 10 years ended with the year under review the revenue increased from

5,200,000*l.* to 8,300,000*l.*, or by 60 per cent., the population during the same period having increased by only 32 per cent. VICTORIA. 1891.

33. The expenditure in 1890–91 was much larger than in any previous year except 1889–90. The amount was less than in that year by over 517,000*l.*, but exceeded that in 1888–89, the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred, by about 1,210,000*l.* It should be pointed out, however, that the amounts in the last two years were exceptionally large, from the fact of their including many items which are non-recurring. Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–73 it was usually nearly up to or slightly over three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–84 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions; from 1884–5 to 1888–9 it increased from six to nearly eight millions sterling; whilst in the last two years it exceeded nine millions. Expenditure, 1890–91 and former years.

34. By adding the figures in the last column, it is found that the sum of the unexpended balances in the 35½ years amounted to nearly 9⅔ millions sterling, the exact amount being 9,642,175*l.*, or to an average of about 271,600*l.* per annum. Amount unexpended, 1856–91.

35. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz.:—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Post and Telegraphs, and other sources. In 1890–91, 3,253,000*l.*, or 39 per cent., was derived from taxation; 613,000*l.*, or 7 per cent., from Crown Lands; 4,093,000*l.*, or 49 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government, viz.:—Railways, Waterworks, and Post and Telegraphs, to which the railways alone contributed as much as 3,306,000*l.*, or nearly 40 per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to 384,000*l.*, or about 5 per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the land revenue, amounting to 613,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 476,000*l.*, being equal to nearly 6 per cent. of the total revenue, was derived from the sale of public land, which, being a receipt arising from the realisation of one of the most valuable assets of the country, is obviously not a permanent source of income. Portion of this amount is properly treated as capital, for on reference to the statement of expenditure it will be seen that a sum of nearly 107,400*l.* was paid during the year towards the construction of railways as directed by the Land Act, 1884, which provides that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the railway construction account. In the last two years, however, the amount so paid represented only between one-fifth and one-sixth of the total proceeds from land sales, the great bulk of land alienated being disposed of otherwise than at auction. A special receipt in 1889–90, amounting to 140,000*l.*, was derived from the sale of the old police court site, the proceeds of which have not been allowed to merge into the general revenue, but have been set apart for various public works. The following is a statement Heads of revenue, 1889–90 and 1890–91.

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of the amounts received under different heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head:—

Heads of Revenue, 1889–90 *and* 1890–91.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889-90.	1890-91.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,658,010	2,525,572	—	132,438
Excise	137,332	129,990	—	7,342
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	29,789	20,669	—	9,120
Licenses (business)	21,756	22,152	396	—
Duties on estates of deceased persons	400,150	184,886	—	215,264
Duties on bank notes	32,173	30,736	—	1,437
Stamp duty	230,000	218,000	—	12,000
Land tax	121,604	120,633	—	971
Total	3,630,814	3,252,638	—	378,176
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	442,583	476,542	33,959	—
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	136,358	136,601	243	—
Penalties under Land Acts	835	308	—	527
Total	579,776	613,451	33,675	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	3,134,066	3,306,580	172,514	—
Water supply { Metropolitan	190,678	204,026	13,348	—
Water supply { Country	69,549	77,055	7,506	—
Other public works	4,848	6,701	1,853	—
Total	3,399,141	3,594,362	195,221	—
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.				
Postal receipts, &c.	353,684	322,693	—	30,991
Telegraph receipts, &c.	172,716	176,634	3,918	—
Total	526,400	499,327	—	27,073
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges	11,317	10,655	—	662
" subsidy returned	4,478	4,760	282	—
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamps)	162,807	162,452	—	355
Interest on public account	66,700	56,492	—	10,208
Rents (other than Crown lands)	4,019	2,427	—	1,592
Reimbursements in aid	75,220	76,522	1,302	—
Miscellaneous receipts	58,487	70,502	12,015	—
Total	383,028	383,810	782	—
Total Ordinary Revenue	8,519,159	8,343,588	—	175,571
Special Receipts	140,000	—	—	140,000
Grand Total Receipts	8,659,159	8,343,588	—	315,571

Diminished revenue, 1890–91, under various heads.

36. Comparing the ordinary revenue of 1890–91 with that of the previous year, it will be observed that the total net decrease, viz., 175,600*l.*, resulted from a falling off of 422,900*l.* under certain heads, chiefly taxation and postal receipts, less an increase of 247,300*l.* under others, more especially Public Works, land revenue, and miscellaneous receipts. The falling-off under taxation amounted to as much as 378,000*l.*, of which 215,000*l.* was in consequence of the smaller amount derived from estates of deceased persons, an item which naturally fluctuates considerably, whilst the remainder is chiefly accounted for by the diminished Customs revenue. In consequence of the rate for inland letters being reduced from 2*d.* to 1*d.*, from the 1st January 1890, the Postal receipts, &c.—which, besides receipts from postage, include commission on money orders, proceeds of parcels post, &c.—show an apparent falling-off of 31,000*l.*, in addition to 49,000*l.* in the previous year, or about 80,000*l.* in all; but eliminating commission on money orders, &c., the estimated revenue from postage alone fell off during the last two years by about 86,000*l.*, which proves to be 10,000*l.* below the estimated loss. On the other hand the telegraph revenue continues to expand, although the increase in 1890–91 (4,000*l.*) was not nearly so large as that in the previous year, viz., 22,700*l.*; whilst the total increase since 1883–84, just before considerable reductions were made in the rates, was 89,700*l.*, or over 100 per cent. It should be noted, however, that over 37,000*l.* of this is derived from the telephone exchanges, taken over by the Government in September 1887. The increase in the land revenue amounted to 33,700*l.*, which is due to the alienation of Crown lands, the amounts derived from rentals remaining almost stationary. In the Public Works division the increase exceeded 195,000*l.*, being made up of 172,500*l.* under railways, which, however, is less by 257,500*l.* than the amount which might have been expected (viz., 430,000*l.*) from the increased length of line open for traffic; 13,300*l.* under Metropolitan Waterworks; 7,500*l.* under Country Waterworks, due merely to increased interest on growing advances to waterworks and irrigation trusts; and 1,800*l.* to other public works. Under "Other Sources" there was a falling-off of 10,000*l.* in the interest received on the public account; but, on the other hand, this was more than counterbalanced by an increase of 12,000*l.* in miscellaneous receipts.

Estimates of postal and stamp revenue unreliable.

37. In reference to the postal revenue, it should be pointed out that, although carefully estimated in the office of the Government Statist, it may be wide of the mark, the data available being, for reasons already explained, inadequate to show with certainty the progress of this important branch of revenue; and the reductions made from time to time in the postal rates still further increase the difficulty of forming a correct estimate. The total stamp revenue in 1890–91 was 751,330*l.*, but, after deducting the amount received on account of telegrams, which is known, there remains a balance of 612,010*l.* for stamp duty, postage, and fees, as compared with 662,649*l.* in 1889–90. Thus the stamp revenue,

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exclusive of telegraphs, showed a decrease of 50,639*l.* as compared with that received in the previous year, and one of 87,207*l.* in 1889–90, as against an increase of 82,286*l.* in 1888–9, of 140,792*l.* in 1887–8, of only 1,465*l.* in 1886–87, of 36,931*l.* in 1885–86, and of 43,372*l.* in 1884–85. Of the decrease in 1890–91, about 36,000*l.* was estimated to have been due chiefly to the reduction in the rate of postage just alluded to, against which must be set off an increase of about 1,100*l.* from the parcels post; and, after allowing a reasonable reduction for fees, a balance of 12,000*l.* was set down to stamp duty (taxation). The importance of distinguishing stamp duty (taxation) from postal revenue and fees has often been referred to in previous issues of this work, but there is still no reliable information on the subject.

Heads of expenditure, 1889–90 and 1890–91.

38. Of the total ordinary expenditure of Victoria in 1890–91, 1,353,000*l.*, or 15 per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government, maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attack; 868,000*l.*, excluding 76,000*l.* for buildings, or 9½ per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 303,000*l.*, or nearly 3⅓ per cent., was expended on public charities or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 100,000*l.*, or 1 per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, or about 37,900*l.* less than the gross annual rental therefrom during the same financial year; as much as 4,802,000*l.*, or 53 per cent., was absorbed in carrying on the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 2,530,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, besides 1,529,000*l.* in interest upon loans raised for their construction, and 743,000*l.* on post and telegraphs; 118,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the construction of other public works; 86,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue from Customs duties and Excise, whilst 38,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and 252,000*l.*, or 3 per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 131,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary expenditure for the year; but besides this an amount of 1,070,900*l.*, or nearly 11⅔ per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on the construction of various public works of a permanent character, viz., 107,400*l.* on railways, 76,000*l.* on State school buildings, and 887,500*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection and of maintenance of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies (450,000*l.*). These amounts might be considered as a set-off against the proceeds of land sales before referred to, which they even exceeded by 594,000*l.* In 1890–91 there were also certain items of special expenditure, amounting to 181,600*l.* (in addition to 230,203*l.* in the two previous years) for the erection of certain public buildings and the improvement of Crown lands, to be recouped from the proceeds of the sale of Crown lands by auction. The following is a classification of the expenditure under 10 divisions and 27 subsidiary

heads, during the years 1889-90 and 1890-91, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1889-90 *and* 1890-91.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889-90.	1890-91.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list	40,915	41,827	912	—
Legislature	74,282	73,503	—	779
Civil establishment	166,471	166,964	493	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	108,842	125,504	16,662	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	41,701	56,697	14,996	—
Total	432,211	464,495	32,284	—
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.				
Judicial and legal	243,856	237,941	—	5,915
Police	265,149	284,097	18,948	—
Gaols and penal establishments	71,146	71,429	283	—
Defences—Naval and Military	350,823	294,967	—	55,856
Total	930,974	888,434	—	42,540
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.				
Public instruction, science, &c.	828,074	867,641	39,567	—
State School buildings	207,595	76,390	—	131,205
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	316,140	303,134	—	13,006
Total	1,351,809	1,247,165	—	104,644
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	97,249	99,695	2,446	—
Agriculture, &c.	98,445	130,948	32,503	—
Mining	137,291	121,310	—	15,981
Total	332,985	351,953	18,968	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses	2,511,106	2,462,582	—	48,524
„ Construction account	88,588	107,428	18,840	—
Water supply	68,850	71,855	3,005	—
Other public works	1,027,926	887,453	—	140,473
Total	3,696,470	3,529,318	—	167,152
Post and telegraphs	709,328	742,666	33,338	—
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways	1,203,375	1,279,195	75,820	—
„ „ Water supply	227,180	249,935	22,755	—
„ „ Other works	117,590	117,754	164	—
Total interest, &c.	1,548,145	1,646,884	98,739	—
Redemption of loans and expenses	276,100	2,125	—	273,975

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Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended. 1889-90.	Amounts Expended. 1890-91.	Increase.	Decrease.
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - - -	88,966	85,885	—	3,081
Harbours and lights - - -	35,166	38,468	3,302	—
Total - - - -	124,132	124,353	221	—
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy - - - -	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines - - - -	9,761	8,692	—	1,069
Miscellaneous services - - -	213,822	102,614	—	111,208
Total - - - -	243,583	131,306	—	112,277
Total ordinary expenditure -	9,645,737	9,128,699	—	517,038
Special expenditure - -	190 779	181,587	—	9,192
Total expenditure—ordinary and special - - -	9,836,516	9,310,286	—	526,230

Chief items of expenditure, 1889-90 and 1890-91 compared.

39. From this table it may be ascertained that a total increase in the ordinary expenditure amounting to 284,034*l.* took place under 15 heads, but a decrease of 801,072*l.* under the other 12 heads, resulting in a net decrease of about 517,000*l.* On the one hand, the most prominent increases were 98,700*l.* in the interest on the public debt, owing to the increasing amounts borrowed for the construction of railways and waterworks; 39,600 under public instruction, of which 25,000*l.* was due to increased cost of State (primary) education, and 15,000*l.* to additional or special grants to the university, technological schools, and mechanics' institutes, &c.; 33,300*l.* under post and telegraphs, of which 25,000*l.* was increased cost of administration, making a total increase of about 80,000*l.* in the last two years; 32,500*l.* under agriculture, of which State forests account for 6,000*l.*, and bonuses for agricultural products for 27,000*l.*; 31,600*l.* under retiring allowances, gratuities, compensation, &c., of which, however, 15,000*l.* being on account of gratuities, &c., does not add to the annual charge, owing chiefly to the retirement of sexagenarians; 19,000*l.* under police, of which about 6,000*l.* was owing to expenses connected with precautions taken to maintain order during the occurrence of the labour strikes in Melbourne; and 18,800*l.* in the amount paid to the railway construction account, which is dependent on the sale of land by auction. In regard to the agricultural bonuses referred to, the total amount already appropriated to that object was 233,000*l.*, of which only 41,600*l.* has yet been paid, the balance being payable from time to time in accordance with regulations approved

by the Governor in Council. On the other hand, there was a large decrease of 140,500*l.* under miscellaneous public works, partly made up of subsidiary decreases as follows:—Government House, 9,000*l.*; court houses, 10,500*l.*; police buildings, 8,000*l.*; lunatic asylums, 11,400*l.*; raising and draining low-lying lands, &c., 6,000*l.*; purchase of land near General Post Office, 17,000*l.*; country post offices, 10,000*l.*; and roads and bridges, 72,000*l.*; also 55,800*l.* under defences, notwithstanding an additional vote of 26,500*l.* to augment the special appropriation of 145,000*l.*, the amount spent on defence works and buildings (including torpedo boats) alone being less by 95,000*l.*; 48,500*l.* under railways; 16,000*l.* under mining, of which nearly 12,000*l.* was in the prospecting vote; 13,000*l.* under charitable institutions, of which 10,000*l.* was a non-recurring grant in aid of increased hospital accommodation in the metropolis, 6,800*l.* under the inebriate asylum (recently built); and of 111,200*l.* in miscellaneous services, resulting chiefly from an exceptional and non-recurring item of 150,000*l.* (advances to be recouped) appearing only in the accounts for 1889–90, and three similar items, 18,500*l.* for the census, 14,100*l.* on account of premier permanent prosecutions, and 22,500*l.* to provide for maintenance of order during the strikes, appearing only in the accounts of 1890–91. Moreover, the following decreases appeared in items usually provided for out of loans:—State school buildings, 131,200*l.*; redemption of loans, 274,000*l.*

Loss on working of State railways.

40. It has already been stated that nearly half the total expenditure is in connexion with the working of the railways, waterworks, and post and telegraphs; but the most important of these is the railways. As the Treasurer's account of these for the last two years is to some extent complicated by arrears being included with a view of placing the account on a sound footing for the future, a better idea of their financial condition will more readily be obtained from the accounts of the Railway Department, which, being compiled at a later date, are believed to be complete for each year. From these it appears that the working expenses increased from 2,132,158*l.* in 1889–90 to 2,310,645*l.* in 1890–91, or by 178,487*l.*; so that there was really no falling-off as would appear from the figures given in the last table. By the same accounts, the net earnings fell off from 999,708*l.* to 987,922*l.* in the two years respectively. And if the differences be taken between these amounts and those given in the last table, as showing the interest paid on account of railway loans, the results will show that the loss to the State on account of railways increased from 203,667*l.* in 1889–90 to 291,273*l.* in 1890–91, as will be seen by the following figures:—

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Railways.—Net Earnings and Interest compared.

	1889–90.	1890–91.
	£	£
Net earnings - - - - -	999,708	987,922
Interest, &c. paid on railway loans - - -	1,203,375	1,279,195
Apparent loss - - - -	203,667	291,273

Expenditure of loans, &c.

41. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1885–86 and during each subsequent year. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure by exhibiting those items which having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1891.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.							
	Prior to 1885–86.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways - -	20,762,830	1,408,662	1,711,160	1,774,721	3,083,211	2,933,087	2,786,562	34,460,233
Water supply :—								
Melbourne -	1,709,388	95,036	148,356	277,749	222,343	434,416	124,037	3,011,325
Country - -	2,503,636	140,449	225,638	184,813	261,725	361,855	503,520	4,181,636
Law courts and Parliament Houses -	436,834	12,153	32,770	44,954	37,563	15,270	—	579,544
Public offices -	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences - -	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings - - -	968,495	45,438	49,284	54,308	59,970	—	—	1,177,495
Yarra bridge - -	13,845	14,205	42,561	32,627	18,207	—	—	121,445
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	60,183	20,976	47,856	53,344	54,279	9,377	13,076	259,091
Total - -	27,057,609	1,736,919	2,257,625	2,422,516	3,737,298	3,754,005	3,427,195	44,393,167

Annual subsidies, grants, &c.

42. Over a tenth of the expenditure payable from the General Revenue consists of subsidies, grants, endowments, &c. The whole amount paid in 1890–91 in this manner was over 928,000*l.* of which nearly half was paid to municipalities, over an eighth to charitable institutions, and nearly a ninth in aid of the mining industry. This does not include the annual grant for free public instruction, which amounted to about 736,000*l.*; or for the

maintenance of the Government charitable institutions—such as the hospitals for the insane, the industrial and reformatory schools, and inebriate asylum—which amounted to nearly 161,000*l*. The following is a statement of the amounts paid in 1890-91 under the various heads:—

Subsidies, Grants, Endowments, &c., 1890-91.

	£
Subsidy to municipalities	450,000
Educational Grants, &c.—	
Melbourne University—Endowment under Act	9,000
" " Additional endowment voted	7,500
" " Grant in aid of laboratories	5,000
College of Pharmacy	1,000
Technological schools—Maintenance, &c.	19,100
" " Buildings	19,500
Public libraries, &c. (including Melbourne Public Library)	48,690
Grant to Royal Society	500
" Australasian Association for Advancement of Science	200
" Victorian Artists' Society	250
" Fine Arts Galleries, Ballarat, Sandhurst, &c.	2,000
" Zoological and Acclimatisation Society, &c.	4,200
Grant to charitable institutions	120,000
" Animals' Protection Society	250
Post and Telegraphs—	
Subsidy—Foreign Mail Service (including payments to other Governments)	44,900
" Maintenance of telegraph line between Port Darwin and Penang	10,400
Mining, Agricultural, and other Industries—	
Mining Boards	3,500
Mint Subsidy	20,000
Diamond drills—Purchase and working expenses of Grant to assist miners in prospecting operations	76,300
" Agricultural and Horticultural Societies	25,224
" Board of Viticulture	1,000
Prizes for agricultural improvements, &c.	990
Bonuses, &c. in aid of agricultural and other industries	34,227
Defences—	
Prizes to rifle associations, &c.	2,700
Supply of ammunition to rifle clubs, cadet corps, &c.	5,000
Bonus to Colonial Ammunition Co., on establishment in colony	5,882
Miscellaneous—	
Exhibitions	1,400
Exhibition trustees, expenses of	6,000
National orchestra	3,000
Imperial Institute	500
Total	£928,213

43. The total amount of revenue and expenditure, and the amount of each per head of the living population, in each of the Australasian Colonies are shown in the following table for the 10 years ended with 1890. As the financial year of Victoria terminates on the 30th June, the items for this Colony are given for 11 years, the last year but one being six months behind, and

Revenue and expenditure in Australasian Colonies.

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the last year being six months in advance, of the latest period in respect to which returns are given for the other Colonies :—

Revenue and Expenditure in Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
		£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Victoria	1880–81	5,186,011	6 0 7	5,108,642	5 18 10
	1881–82	5,592,362	6 7 1	5,145,764	5 17 0
	1882–83	5,611,253	6 4 6	5,651,885	6 5 5
	1883–84	5,954,687	6 9 0	5,715,293	6 4 2
	1884–85	6,290,361	6 13 2	6,140,356	6 10 0
	1885–86	6,481,021	6 13 9	6,513,540	6 14 5
	1886–87	6,733,826	6 14 7	6,561,251	6 11 2
	1887–88	7,607,598	7 7 4	7,287,151	7 1 1
	1888–89	8,675,990	8 1 1	7,919,902	7 7 1
	1889–90	8,519,159	7 14 5	9,645,737	8 14 10
	1890–91	8,343,588	7 7 3	9,128,699	8 1 1
New South Wales	1881	6,707,963	8 15 10	5,890,580	7 14 5
	1882	7,410,737	9 5 7	6,347,810	7 19 0
	1883	6,470,341	7 14 5	8,048,319	9 12 1
	1884	7,117,592	8 1 2	6,853,189	7 15 2
	1885	7,584,593	8 3 7	8,573,288	9 4 11
	1886	7,594,301	7 16 8	9,078,869	9 7 4
	1887	8,582,811	8 10 10	9,098,460	9 1 1
	1888	8,886,360	8 11 7	8,778,851	8 9 6
	1889	9,063,397	8 10 0	9,250,271	8 13 6
	1890	9,498,620	8 12 5	9,403,562	8 10 8
Queensland	1880–81	2,023,668	9 8 2	1,757,654	8 3 5
	1881–82	2,102,095	9 5 3	1,904,201	8 7 9
	1883	2,583,444	9 12 11	2,242,971	8 7 6
	1884	2,673,554	9 1 5	2,751,851	9 6 8
	1885	2,840,960	9 4 0	2,875,609	9 6 3
	1886	2,810,147	8 11 10	3,202,030	9 15 10
	1887	3,032,463	8 15 0	3,350,049	9 13 4
	1888	3,463,097	9 11 9	3,368,405	9 6 6
	1889	3,440,249	9 3 10	3,594,626	9 12 1
	1890	3,230,308	8 9 0	3,745,217	9 14 2
South Australia	1881	2,171,988	7 10 4	2,054,285	7 2 4
	1882	2,087,076	7 4 0	2,146,599	7 8 1
	1883	2,060,140	6 17 10	2,330,079	7 15 10
	1884	2,024,928	6 11 3	2,398,191	7 15 5
	1885	2,309,592	7 7 6	2,454,808	7 16 10
	1886	1,975,269	6 6 11	2,234,395	7 3 7
	1887	2,014,102	6 9 6	2,145,135	6 17 11
	1888	2,494,556	7 19 9	2,376,399	7 12 3
	1889	2,270,433	7 4 9	2,355,927	7 10 2
	1890	2,557,772	8 1 1	2,579,258	8 2 5
Western Australia	1881	254,313	8 11 4	197,386	6 13 0
	1882	250,372	8 4 9	205,451	6 15 3
	1883	284,364	9 2 1	240,566	7 14 1
	1884	290,319	8 19 7	291,307	9 0 3
	1885	323,213	9 9 9	308,849	9 1 4
	1886	388,564	10 9 0	394,675	10 12 3
	1887	377,903	9 1 3	456,897	10 19 2
	1888	357,003	8 8 9	385,129	9 2 0
	1889	382,213	8 17 7	386,000	8 19 4
	1890	414,314	8 12 10	401,751	8 7 7

Colony.	Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
		£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Tasmania -	1881	505,872	4 6 3	468,613	3 19 11
	1882	551,213	4 12 3	502,771	4 4 2
	1883	562,189	4 12 0	533,036	4 7 3
	1884	549,262	4 7 8	584,047	4 13 2
	1885	571,397	4 9 2	585,767	4 11 5
	1886	568,924	4 7 3	584,756	4 9 8
	1887	594,976	4 8 11	668,759	5 0 0
	1888	640,068	4 13 4	709,486	5 3 5
	1889	678,909	4 16 10	681,674	4 17 2
	1890	758,100	5 5 6	722,746	5 0 7
New Zealand -	1881	3,757,493	7 12 3	3,675,797	7 9 0
	1882	3,917,160	7 13 10	3,824,735	7 10 2
	1883	3,871,267	7 6 3	3,924,905	7 8 3
	1884	3,707,488	6 14 2	4,101,318	7 8 5
	1885	3,859,996	6 16 4	4,282,901	7 11 4
	1886	3,688,016	6 6 9	4,310,875	7 8 1
	1887	3,463,495	5 16 2	3,954,290	6 12 7
	1888	4,109,815	6 15 9	3,962,912	6 10 11
	1889	3,991,919	6 10 6	3,981,721	6 10 2
	1890	4,208,029	6 15 7	4,081,566	6 11 6

Note.—In 1891–92 the approximate revenue of Victoria was 7,728,828*l.*, and the approximate expenditure 8,639,900*l.*

Victorian statements differ from those of New South Wales.

44. It should be pointed out that the Victorian returns of revenue and expenditure are prepared on a somewhat different principle from those of New South Wales, the over-payments to the revenue, afterwards refunded, being in the Victorian statements deducted therefrom, and the net amounts only dealt with. In New South Wales, on the other hand, the refunds are not deducted from the revenue, but are placed under the head of expenditure, both revenue and expenditure being swelled thereby. It is not possible from the official statements of public accounts in New South Wales to ascertain the full extent to which this expansion of both sides of the account occurs; but by a superficial analysis of the accounts of the year 1890, sums can be readily traced, amounting in the aggregate to at least 195,283*l.*, which are included in and go to swell both the revenue and expenditure of that colony, whereas they would not be so included in Victoria, and this cannot be the full extent to which such differences occur. It is not known whether a similar system of cross-entry prevails in the other Australasian colonies, but it is probable such entries are not so rigidly excluded in any of the other colonies, except perhaps New Zealand, as they are in Victoria.

Revenue and expenditure compared.

45. In the last year named in the table, the revenue exceeded the expenditure in all the colonies except Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia, although in the previous year there were

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deficiencies in all the colonies except New Zealand. In New South Wales the surplus in 1890 amounted to 95,000*l.*, in Western Australia to nearly 13,000*l.*, in Tasmania to 35,000*l.*, and in New Zealand to 126,000*l.*; but, on the other hand, there were exceptionally large deficiencies of 785,000*l.* and 485,000*l.* in Victoria and Queensland respectively, and one of 21,000*l.* in South Australia, which resulted in a net deficiency in the colonies as a whole, of 1,022,000*l.*, as against a net deficiency in 1889 of 1,550,000*l.*, but a net surplus in 1888 of 1,126,000*l.* During the last ten years referred to in the table there has been a surplus six times in Victoria, five times in New South Wales, Western Australia, and New Zealand, four times in Queensland and Tasmania, and twice in South Australia.

Revenue and expenditure in Colonies, 1890 and former years.

46. In the last year named in the table a larger revenue than in any previous year was raised in all the colonies, except Victoria and Queensland; and a larger expenditure in all but Victoria, Western Australia, and New Zealand.

Revenue and expenditure per head in Colonies.

47. South Australia and Tasmania were the only colonies in which the revenue and expenditure per head was as large in the last year as in any of the previous years named.

Revenue and expenditure of Australia and Australasia.

48. Adding together the amounts of revenue and likewise the amounts of expenditure for 1890, it will be found that on the continent of Australia the former amounted to 24¼ millions, and the latter to over 25¾ millions; also that the aggregate revenue of Australia, with the addition of that of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to nearly 29¼ millions, and the aggregate expenditure to over 30½ millions sterling. In Continental Australia there was a deficiency on the year's transactions of a million and a half, and in the Australasian colonies, as a whole, of one million and a third. The following are the exact amounts of revenue and expenditure, also the proportions per head of population:—

Revenue and Expenditure of Australia and Australasia, 1890.

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ *s.* *d.*	£	£ *s.* *d.*
Continent of Australia -	24,250,173	8 4 1	25,775,525	8 14 5
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand.	29,216,302	7 17 0	30,579,837	8 4 5

Increased revenue of Australasia in 17 years.

49. A comparison of the aggregate revenue of the colonies upon the Australian continent in 1873 and 1890 shows that in the 17 years it had risen from 9,161,000*l.* to 24,250,000*l.*, the

increase being over 15 million sterling, or 165 per cent. If the revenues of Tasmania and New Zealand be added, the sum shows an aggregate revenue for the whole of Australasia of 12,262,000*l.* at the former, and of 29,216,000*l.* at the latter period, the increase being nearly 17 millions, or 138 per cent. In the same 17 years the mean population of the Australian continent increased from 1,671,051*l.* to 2,970,520*l.*, or by 78 per cent., and the population of the whole of Australasia increased from 2,062,375*l.* to 3,735,034*l.*, or by 81 per cent.

Land revenue in Australasian Colonies.

50. In 1890 the aggregate land revenue of the Australasian colonies amounted to nearly 4,200,000*l.* The following table shows the receipts from the sale and occupation of Crown lands and their proportion to the total revenue in each Australasian colony during 1890. The colonies are arranged in order according to that proportion:—

Land Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

Colony.	Revenue derived from Crown Lands for—			Proportion of Land Revenue to Total Revenue.
	Alienation in Fee-simple and Progressive Alienation.	Temporary Occupation and Miscellaneous.	Total.	
	£	£	£	Per cent.
Western Australia -	32,842	74,794	107,636	25·98
New South Wales -	1,275,658	967,381	2,243,039	23·62
Queensland - -	190,735	386,133	576,868	17·69
Tasmania - -	47,319	32,646	79,965	10·55
South Australia - -	69,445	176,982	246,427	9·63
New Zealand - -	154,584	176,372	330,956	7·86
Victoria (1890–91) -	476,850	136,601	613,451	7·35
Total - -	2,247,433	1,950,909	4,198,342	14·37

Prospective diminution of land revenue in Colonies.

51. It will be noticed that about a seventh of the aggregate revenues of the Australasian colonies in 1890 was derived from Crown lands, and that the proportion amounted to less than a twelfth in Victoria and New Zealand; about a tenth in South Australia and Tasmania; about a sixth in Queensland; and about a fourth in New South Wales and Western Australia. It will also be remarked that in the colonies, as a whole, more than half the land revenue was derived from alienation in fee-simple.

Sources of revenue in Australasia.

52. Of the 29¼ millions sterling which formed the total revenue of the Australasian colonies in 1890, close upon 11½ millions, or nearly two-fifths, was raised by taxation, chiefly through the Customs; 9¼ millions, or something less than one-third, was derived from Railways; over 4 millions from Crown Lands; and not quite two millions from Post and Telegraphs. The following are the exact figures, also the amounts per head, distinguishing

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those relating to Continental Australia from those relating to the Australasian colonies taken as a whole :—

Heads of Revenue in Australia and Australasia, 1890.

Heads of Revenue.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Proportions per cent.	Amount.	Proportions per cent.
	£		£	
Taxation—				
Customs - -	6,574,450	27·11	8,439,385	28·88
Other taxes - -	2,271,268	9·37	3,034,749	10·39
Total - -	8,845,718	36·48	11,474,134	39·27
Crown lands - -	3,753,746	15·48	4,164,667	14·26
Railways - -	8,062,955	33·25	9,309,586	31·87
Post and telegraphs -	1,600,939	6·60	1,999,345	6·84
Other sources - -	1,986,825	8·19	2,268,570	7·76
Total - -	24,250,173	100·00	29,216,302	100·00

Heads of expenditure of Australasian Colonies.

53. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts expended under a few of the principal heads in the respective Colonies during the most recent year for which the particulars are available:—

Heads of Expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

Heads of Expenditure.	Victoria, 1890-91.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways (working expenses)	2,462,582	2,037,168	631,246	567,663	62,270	110,227	725,332
Post and telegraphs	742,666	648,993	318,951	181,966	36,609	67,754	257,684
Interest of public debt.	1,646,884	1,895,656	1,139,035	755,289	57,614	223,652	1,640,289
Immigration - -	—	5,916	7,569	20	1,948	—	—
Other services -	4,276,567	4,815,829	1,648,416	1,076,290	243,310	321,113	1,458,261
Total - -	9,128,699	9,403,562	3,745,217	2,579,258	401,751	722,746	4,081,566
	Proportions per cent.						
Railways (working expenses).	26·98	21·67	16·86	22·01	15·50	15·25	17·77
Post and Telegraphs	8·13	6·90	8·52	7·06	9·11	9·37	6·31
Interest of Public Debt.	18·04	20·16	30·41	29·20	14·34	30·95	40·19
Immigration -	—	·06	·20	—	·49	—	—
Other services -	46·85	51·21	44·01	41·73	60·56	44·43	35·73
Total - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

54. It will be observed that the railway expenditure was smaller by about 433,000*l.* in New South Wales than in Victoria, where it amounted to about 2½ millions sterling, or more than a fourth of the total expenditure, but the interest payable on the public debt was larger by nearly 249,000*l.* in the former than in the latter Colony. In New Zealand also, which had little more than one-half the revenue of Victoria, the interest on the public debt was about the same as in Victoria. Four of the Colonies have now an annual charge for interest varying from 1⅛ to over 1⅞ million sterling. In Victoria the postal and telegraph expenditure is now 743,000*l.*, and in New South Wales close on 649,000*l.* The expenditure on immigration should be considered in conjunction with the loan expenditure which took place during the year.

Heads of expenditure in Australasian Colonies compared.

55. It will also be noticed that about two-fifths of the total expenditure in Western Australia, nearly half in New South Wales, more than half in Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, and South Australia, and nearly two-thirds in New Zealand, was devoted to the working of railways and post and telegraphs, and the payment of interest on the public debt—contracted for the construction of railways and other public works. In Victoria the railway working expenses alone amounted to over one-fourth of the total, and the interest on the public debt to over a sixth; the former being much higher than in any of the other Colonies, but the latter lower than in any except Western Australia. In New Zealand as much as two-fifths, and in Tasmania, Queensland, and South Australia nearly a third, of the whole expenditure was for interest. The proportion expended on postal and telegraph services, it will be noticed, varied from less than 6⅓ per cent. in New Zealand, to 7 per cent. in New South Wales, and South Australia, to over 8 per cent. in Victoria and Queensland, and to over 9 per cent. in Western Australia and Tasmania.

Proportion of expenditure on various objects.

56. The following is a summary of the aggregate expenditure under the various heads referred to for Australia and Australasia:—

Heads of expenditure in Australasia.

Heads of Expenditure in Australia and Australasia, 1890.

Heads of Expenditure.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Amount per cent.	Amount.	Amount per cent.
	£		£	
Railways (working expenses)	5,809,453	22·54	6,645,012	21·73
Post and telegraphs - -	1,895,877	7·35	2,221,315	7·27
Interest on public debt, &c. -	5,393,739	20·93	7,257,680	23·73
Immigration - - -	15,153	·06	15,453	·05
Other services - -	12,661,003	49·12	14,440,377	47·22
Total - -	25,775,525	100·00	30,579,837	100·00

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Loan expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

57. In addition to the expenditure of amounts derived from the general revenue, as shown in the last two tables, all the Colonies spend large sums of borrowed money, chiefly on railways and waterworks, but, also, in some instances, on the construction of electric telegraphs, harbour works and lighthouses, defence works, roads and bridges, school buildings, and other public works, and on immigration. The following table shows the total loan expenditure of the various Colonies during 1890, also the amounts per head:—

Expenditure from Loans in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

Colony.	Expenditure from Loans during 1890.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.
Victoria	3,754,005	3 8 0
New South Wales	2,141,219	1 18 10
Queensland	1,478,269	3 16 8
South Australia	892,267	2 16 5
Western Australia	15,906	0 6 8
Total	8,281,666	2 16 0
Tasmania	1,628,281	11 6 7
New Zealand	398,817	0 12 10
Grand Total	10,308,764	2 15 5

Loan expenditure of different Colonies compared.

58. It will be observed that the aggregate loan expenditure of the Australasian Colonies in 1890 was over 10 millions sterling, of which Victoria spent 3¾ millions, New South Wales over 2 millions, and Tasmania and Queensland about 1½ millions each. It will be noticed, however, that the loan expenditure per head of population was less in Victoria than in Queensland or Tasmania —where it was exceptionally high—although greater than in any of the other Colonies.

Heads of loan expenditure in Australia and Australasia.

59. Of the loan expenditure of the Australasian Colonies during 1890 over two-thirds was spent in the construction of railways, nearly one-eighth on waterworks, 3½ per cent. in connexion with harbours, rivers, &c., over 3 per cent. on roads and bridges, over two-thirds of 1 per cent. on the introduction of immigrants, and the balance (about 10⅔ per cent.) for other services. The following are the total and proportionate amounts expended under each of these heads in Australia and Australasia respectively during 1890:—

Heads of Loan Expenditure in Australia and Australasia, 1890.

Heads of Loan Expenditure.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Amount per cent.	Amount.	Amount per cent.
	£		£	
Railways - -	5,627,245	67·95	7,208,957	69·93
Water supply - -	1,245,435	15·04	1,246,473	12·09
Roads and bridges - -	89,357	1·08	322,013	3·12
Harbours, rivers, light-houses, &c.	361,669	4·37	361,907	3·51
Immigration - - -	70,049	·84	70,840	·69
Other services - -	887,911	10·72	1,098,574	10·66
Total - - - -	8,281,666	100·00	10,308,764	100·00

Public debt.

60. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1891 to 43,610,265*l.*, consisting of moneys:—

	£
Borrowed in Victoria - -	1,391,565
,, England - -	42,218,700
Total - -	43,610,265

Purposes for which loans were incurred.

61. The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June 1891 was 55,053,885*l.*; but a total of 11,443,620*l.* having been repaid, viz., 2,379,200*l.* out of the general revenue, and 9,064,420*l.* out of the proceeds of redemption loans, the balance outstanding on the 30th June 1891 was reduced to 43,610,265*l.* The amount of public debt borrowed under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, the amount paid off, and the amount outstanding on the 30th June 1891 are shown in the following table:—

Purposes for which Loans were Raised.

Public Borrowings contracted for—	Total Amount borrowed.	Amount.		
		Paid off.	Outstanding 30th June 1891.	
			Total.	Per-centage.
REVENUE YIELDING WORKS.	£	£	£	
Railways - - -	34,293,806	344,200	33,949,606	77·85
Tramways in country districts	200,000	—	200,000	·46
Water supply and irrigation—				
Melbourne - - -	3,048,916	800,000	2,248,916	5·16
Country - -	4,505,217	—	4,505,217	10·33
Harbours and docks -	275,554	—	275,554	·63
Graving-dock - - -	350,464	—	350,464	·80
Total revenue yielding -	42,673,957	1,144,200	41,529,757	95·23

Public Borrowings contracted for—	Total Amount borrowed.	Amount. Paid off.	Outstanding 30th June 1891. Total.	Percentage.
OTHER WORKS OF A PERMANENT CHARACTER.	£	£	£	
Parliament houses - -	246,453	—	246,453	·56
Law courts - - -	354,260	—	354,260	·81
Public offices - - -	166,195	—	166,195	·38
Defence works - -	100,000	—	100,000	·23
State school buildings -	1,105,557	—	1,105,557	2·54
Prince's Bridge, Melbourne -	108,043	—	108,043	·25
Melbourne and Geelong improvements.	735,000	735,000	—	—
Total permanent works	2,815,508	735,000	2,080,508	4·77
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Treasury bonds - -	500,000	500,000	—	—
Net borrowings -	45,989,465	2,379,200	43,610,265	100·0
Redemption of loans -	9,064,420	9,064,420	—	—
Gross borrowings -	55,053,885	11,443,620	43,610,265	—

Borrowings devoted to revenue producing works.

62. It will be observed that at the present time 95 per cent. of the Victorian borrowings has been devoted to railways, waterworks, and other revenue producing works, from which the State derives a considerable income. Only 5 per cent. of the debt is not directly revenue producing, and this has been expended on such useful and permanent works as bridges, defence works, State schools, public buildings, &c.

Rates of interest.

63. About a fourth of the public debt bears interest at 3½ per cent., whilst nearly two-thirds bears interest at 4 per cent., and the balance at higher rates up to 5 per cent., the average being 4·00 per cent. The following are the rates of interest payable on the various amounts of which the public debt of Victoria was composed on the 30th June 1891 :—

Rates of Interest.	Amount at each Rate.
	£
5 per cent. - - -	2,603,800
4½ per cent. - - -	5,000,000
4 per cent. - - -	26,006,465
3½ per cent. - - -	10,000,000
Total - - -	43,610,265

64. Nearly three-fourths of the interest on the debt is payable in July and January, and the remainder in October and April. In connexion with this, Messrs. W. Westgarth & Co., of London, whilst admitting the inconvenience to the Colony of having large interest amounts falling due at one time, have pointed out that the greatest degree of negociability for the stock can only be attained by making the periods of payment uniform for all loans. All but about one-thirtieth of the interest is payable in London, and the remainder in Melbourne. The following table shows the annual interest amounts on the debt as it existed on the 30th June 1891, distinguishing the time when and places where payable. Interest on debt.

Annual Interest on Public Debt at 30th June 1891.

Rate per cent.	When due	Interest due annually—		
		In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
		£	£	£
5	July and January - -	15,645	105 350	120,995
4½	" " - -	—	225,000	225,000
4	" " - -	—	598,280	598,280
3½	" " - -	—	350,000	350,000
	Total - -	15,645	1,278,630	1,294,275
4	October and April - -	41,979	400,000	441,979
		57,624	1,678,630	1,736,254
	Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.	1,460	7,735	9,195
	Grand Total - -	59,084	1,686,365	1,745,449

NOTE.—According to the Treasurer's Finance Statement, 1890–91, the amount actually *payable* in 1891–2 was 1,709,669*l*. The difference between this and the amount shown in the table (35,780*l*.) is accounted for by the non-payment of 18,280*l*. on debentures not issued to the public, but held by Government on account of trust funds invested, and by only half a year's interest on 1,000,000*l*. floated in July 1891 being chargeable to the financial year.

65. The annual interest on the public debt, as it existed at the end of the financial year 1890–91, was equivalent to an average rate of just 4*l*. per 100*l*., the average rates on the amounts borrowed for the different works varying from 3½ to 4⅓ per cent. No money has been borrowed at 6 per cent. since 1866, and the 5, 4½, 4, and 3½ per cent. loans floated since, together with the substitution of 4 and 3½ per cent. debentures and stock for the 6 per cents. which had become due, have gradually brought down the rate of interest, so that at the end of 1890–91 it averaged only 4 per cent., as just stated. The following are the particulars of the amounts borrowed for the Interest on loans for different works.

different works, and the annual interest and average rate of interest thereon :—

Interest on Loans for Different Works.

Purpose for which raised.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June, 1891.	Annual Interest.	
		Amount.	Average Nominal Rate per cent.
	£	£	
Railways - - -	33,949,606	1,361,426	4·01
Tramways in country districts - -	200,000	7,750	3·88
Water supply { Melbourne - -	2,248,916	88,344	3·93
Water supply { Country - -	4,505,217	176,201	3·91
Law Courts and Parliament House -	600,713	25,265	4·27
Public offices - - -	166,195	6,789	4·08
Defences - - - -	100,000	3,500	3·50
State schools - - -	1,105,557	45,222	4·09
Yarra Bridge - - -	108,043	4,622	4·28
Harbours, &c. - - -	275,554	11,022	4·00
Graving dock - - -	350,464	15,308	4·37
Total - - -	43,610,265	1,745,449	4·00

Interest payable and paid.

66. By the last two tables it appears that, on the debt as it stood at the end of 1890–91, the total amount accruing annually as interest is 1,745,449*l.*; but as interest (18,280*l.*) on debentures held by the Government was not paid, and as some of the interest which accrued (on that portion of the debt which was not in existence during the whole of the year) was not payable until the ensuing year, the amount actually paid in 1890–91 was only 1,620,776*l.*, viz., 1,563,783*l.* in London, and 56,993*l.* in Melbourne.

Interest on debt recouped from reproductive works.

67. The real burden of the debt is ascertained by finding how much of the interest is not covered by the net profits arising from those public works on which the loan moneys have been expended, and has therefore to be provided for by taxation, land revenue, &c. Thus, in 1890–91, although the interest which accrued on the public debt of Victoria amounted to 1,672,816*l.*, it was only necessary to provide for 416,681*l.*, or about 25 per cent., by taxation, &c., the remaining 75 per cent. being derived from

public works of a reproductive character. The following is a statement of the sources from which the interest was defrayed:— VICTORIA, 1891.

Interest on Victorian Public Debt, and Sources whence defrayed, 1890–91.

Interest defrayed from—	1890–91.
	£
Net revenue from railways	987,922
„ „ Melbourne water rates	173,171
„ „ graving dock	1,220
Interest on loans to local bodies (actual receipts)	45,542
„ debentures held by Government	18,280
„ unexpended balances in banks (approximate)	30,000
Total	1,256,135
Taxation and land revenue	416,681
Total interest accrued	1,672,816

68. From the best information available similar particulars have been compiled for the other Australian Colonies (except Western Australia) and Canada, with the result that the profits of reproductive public works are found to cover a larger proportion of the interest on the debt in Victoria than in any of the other Colonies of this group, whilst the proportion in Canada is lower than in any Australasian Colony. The following are the proportions referred to:— Interest recouped from reproductive works in Australasian Colonies and Canada.

Proportion of Interest on Public Debt covered by Earnings of Reproductive Works, 1890.

	Per cent.
Victoria	75·10
New South Wales	67·30
South Australia	60·43
Queensland	27·33
New Zealand	25·27
Tasmania	11·92
Canada	11·21

69. The following table shows the total amount of debt, and the indebtedness per head, in Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies on the 31st December of every fifth year from 1875; Debts of Australasian Colonies.

VICTORIA. 1891.

also of the three years 1888, 1889, and 1890; also the number of years' revenue the debt was equal to in each of those years:—

Public Debts of the Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	Year.	On the 31st December.		
		Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.	Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to
		£	£ s. d.	
Victoria	1875	13,995,093	17 0 0	3·30
	1880	22,060,749	25 13 0	4·77
	1885	28,628,588	29 10 9	4·55
	1888	34,627,382	32 3 0	4·55
	1889	37,367,027	33 17 1	4·31
	1890	41,443,216	36 11 5	4·86
New South Wales	1875	11,470,637	19 6 0	2·78
	1880	14,903,913	19 18 6	3·04
	1885	35,564,259	37 9 1	4·69
	1888	44,100,149	41 19 2	4·96
	1889	46,646,449	43 2 4	5·15
	1890	48,425,333	43 3 4	5·11
Queensland	1875	6,435,250	35 1 0	4·72
	1880	12,192,150	53 18 7	7·56
	1885	19,320,850	61 4 10	6·80
	1888	25,840,950	70 4 7	7·46
	1889	25,840,950	67 18 2	7·51
	1890	28,105,684	71 17 4	8·62
South Australia	1875	3,320,600	15 15 7	2·90
	1880	9,865,500	36 17 5	4·86
	1885	17,020,900	54 6 2	7·37
	1888	19,147,700	61 9 5	7·68
	1889	20,435,500	64 13 4	9·00
	1890	21,151,500	66 5 6	8·27
Western Australia	1875	135,000	5 1 1	·86
	1880	361,000	12 8 9	2·00
	1885	1,288,100	36 12 4	3·99
	1888	1,275,200	30 5 3	3·57
	1889	1,371,981	31 7 11	3·59
	1890	1,367,444	27 15 10	3·30
Tasmania	1875	1,489,400	14 7 4	4·35
	1880	1,943,700	16 18 9	4·42
	1885	3,357,000	25 19 5	5·88
	1888	4,499,470	32 10 6	7·03
	1889	5,019,050	35 6 0	7·39
	1890	6,432,800	44 5 6	8·48
New Zealand	1875	17,400,031	46 5 11	6·18
	1880	28,583,231	58 19 0	8·71
	1885	35,790,422	62 4 5	8·74
	1888	38,325,550	63 2 0	9·33
	1889	38,483,250	62 9 4	9·64
	1890	38,832,350	62 1 8	9·23

Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

70. If the amounts of debt at the latest period shown in the table be added together, it will be found that the aggregate debt of the Colonies on the continent of Australia was 140½ millions, being nearly 9 millions more than in 1889; and the aggregate debt of Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, somewhat exceeded 185¾ millions sterling, being over 10½ millions more than in 1889. The following are the exact figures for 1890, also the proportion of indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the Colonies within the same limits:—

Public Debt of Australia and Australasia, 1890.

—	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	Per cent.
Continent of Australia - - -	140,493,177	46 12 1	5·79
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand - - - - -	185,758,327	49 1 6	6·36

Debt per head higher in Australasia than in Australia.

71. It will be observed that a combination of the indebtedness of the insular Colonies with that of the Colonies upon the Australian continent gives a proportion of debt per head higher by about 2*l.* 10*s.*, than such a proportion applied to the continental Colonies alone, in explanation of which it will be remembered that, although, in proportion to population, Tasmania's indebtedness is somewhat below the average, New Zealand is one of the most heavily indebted Colonies of the group.

Classification of debts of Australasian Colonies.

72. The purposes for which the public debts of the Australasian Colonies were incurred may be classified under three heads—(1.) Works yielding direct revenue, including all immediately reproductive works, such as railways, telegraphs, waterworks, harbour and river improvements, &c.; (2.) Other works of a permanent character not returning direct revenue—including roads and bridges, defence works, school buildings, and other public works and buildings; (3.) Miscellaneous—including introduction of immigrants, amounts borrowed to cover deficiencies in revenue, and amounts unapportioned to their proper heads. In the following table the debt of each Colony is classified under these three heads:—

VICTORIA. 1891.

Purposes for which Public Debts of Australasian Colonies were Incurred.

(Amounts outstanding on the 31st December 1890.)

Purposes for which Incurred.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1.—Works yielding Direct Revenue.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways and tramways	32,156,128	32,571,007	16,401,085	11,374,903	832,498	3,282,252	14,104,093
Electric telegraphs	—	735,493	806,824	848,081	234,741	102,471	606,648
Water supply (including sewerage).	6,580,562	4,574,848	251,526	3,307,300	7,725	—	561,101
Harbours, rivers, lighthouses, and docks.	626,019	2,883,476	1,822,197	1,389,562	69,620	1,655,288	881,818
Total	39,362,709	40,764,824	19,281,632	16,919,846	1,144,584	5,040,011	16,153,660
2.—Other Works of a Permanent Character.							
Roads and bridges	108,042	625,955	853,735	1,428,284	49,680	—	3,598,163
Defence works	100,000	864,581	151,584	250,645	—	120,868	429,719
School buildings	1,105,557	148,906	—	680,300	—	120,428	—
Other public works and buildings.	766,908	1,142,289	2,107,908	471,425	154,262	590,988	2,132,955
Total	2,080,507	2,781,731	3,113,227	2,830,654	203,942	832,284	6,160,837
3.—Miscellaneous.							
Immigration	—	569,930	2,691,775	—	—	235,714	2,145,159
Deficiencies in revenue (including Treasury bonds).	—	2,373,884	397,336	810,000	—	286,871	218,500
Balance { Other services	—	49,855	—	591,000	4,298	37,920	1,279,663
Balance { Unapportioned	—	1,885,109	2,621,714	—	14,620	—	12,874,540
Total	—	4,878,778	5,710,825	1,401,000	18,918	560,505	16,517,853
Grand Total	41,443,216	48,425,333	28,105,684	21,151,500	1,367,444	6,432,800	38,832,350

Purposes for which debts of Australasian Colonies were contracted.

73. The major portion of the public debt of each of the Australasian Colonies was contracted for the purpose of railway construction, but smaller amounts were borrowed for water supply, immigration, electric telegraphs, harbour and defence works, roads and bridges, school-houses, and other public works. Up to the end of 1890, New South Wales and Victoria had borrowed a larger amount for railway construction than any other Colony, the amount being over 32,000,000*l.* in both cases, as against 16,400,000*l.* borrowed for the same purpose by Queensland, over 14,000,000*l.* by New Zealand, and nearly 11,400,000*l.* by South Australia. Victoria has borrowed more for water supply than any other Colony, the total amount being 6,500,000*l.*, as against 4,600,000*l.* borrowed by New South Wales, and 3,300,000*l.* borrowed by South Australia, for the same object. No portion of the public debt of Victoria, South Australia, or Western Australia has been contracted for the promotion of immigration,

but up to the end of 1890 Queensland and New Zealand had borrowed over two and a half and over two millions respectively for immigration purposes, whilst New South Wales and Tasmania had borrowed considerably smaller sums.

Order of Colonies in respect to borrowings for productive works.

74. Ninety-five per cent. of the Victorian public debt was incurred for the purpose of being expended upon revenue-producing public works, which is a larger proportion than in any of the other Colonies. This is shown by the following figures, which give the proportion so incurred in each Colony :—

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportion of Debt incurred for reproductive Works.

	Per cent.
1. Victoria - - - -	94·98
2. New South Wales - - -	84·18
3. Western Australia - - -	83·76
4. South Australia - - -	80·00
5. Tasmania - - - -	78·35
6. Queensland - - - -	68·60
7. New Zealand - - - -	41·60

Marriages, 1891.

75. The marriages returned to the Registrar-General in 1891 numbered 8,780, as against 9,187 in 1890, 9,194 in 1889, and 8,946 in 1888.

Marriages, 1891, and former years.

76. The marriages returned in 1891, although fewer than in the three previous years, were more numerous than those in any year prior to those. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made which continued until the year preceding that under review. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; in 1884 they exceeded 7,000; in 1888 they nearly reached 9,000; and in 1889 and 1890 they exceeded that number by nearly 200; but in 1891 they again fell below 9,000.

Marriage rate.

77. The proportion which the number of marriages bears to the total population is generally called the marriage rate. This for many years was declining in Victoria, for, whilst in the three years prior to 1863 it was above 8 per 1,000 of both sexes, and all ages; from 1863 to 1865 it was between 7 and 8; and from 1866 to 1878 it was between 6 and 7 per 1,000. It reached its lowest point, 5·98 per 1,000, in 1879; then gradually revived, until the period between 1888 and 1890, when it again exceeded 8 per 1,000 for the first time since 1862. In 1891 a somewhat sudden fall took place to 7·7 per 1,000, which was about the same average as that prevailing during the four years prior to 1888.

Marriage rates in Australasian Colonies.

78. The following table gives a statement of the number of marriages to every 1,000 of the population of the various Australasian Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1891, except Western Australia, for which Colony it is given for the last 20 of those years :—

Marriage Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 *to* 1891.

Year.	Number of Marriages per 1,000 of Mean Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 -	7·36	8·94	13·27	9·45	—	6·27	10·47
1866 -	6·76	8·26	11·61	8·12	—	5·93	10·32
1867 -	6·97	7·84	9·54	8·20	—	6·10	9·69
1868 -	7·08	8·23	8·33	7·37	—	6·57	9·35
1869 -	6·89	8·04	8·31	6·78	—	6·44	8·32
1870 -	6·63	7·85	7·80	6·90	—	6·62	7·62
1871 -	6·37	7·78	8·06	6·77	—	5·90	7·15
1872 -	6·36	7·46	8·70	7·20	5·56	6·17	6·85
1873 -	6·50	8·05	9·66	8·00	6·25	6·36	7·91
1874 -	6·33	7·70	8·62	8·00	6·96	6·83	8·87
1875 -	6·33	7·88	8·63	8·01	7·26	6·63	8·94
1876 -	6·21	7·66	7·57	8·49	7·07	7·13	8·25
1877 -	6·31	7·94	7·57	8·66	6·38	7·79	7·63
1878 -	6·20	8·08	6·98	9·47	6·50	7·96	8·03
1879 -	5·98	7·80	7·49	8·81	7·57	7·23	7·60
1880 -	6·22	7·68	6·97	8·69	7·42	7·38	6·71
1881 -	6·79	8·27	7·71	8·33	6·60	7·30	6·65
1882 -	7·09	8·70	8·56	8·73	7·07	8·11	7·07
1883 -	7·44	8·83	8·93	8·49	6·95	9·16	6·82
1884 -	7·74	8·47	8·91	8·28	7·11	8·00	6·88
1885 -	7·73	8·22	9·20	7·82	7·51	8·22	6·73
1886 -	7·86	8·06	8·52	6·35	7·99	7·55	5·99
1887 -	7·64	7·55	8·41	6·36	7·58	7·02	5·97
1888 -	8·48	7·57	9·01	6·67	7·18	6·93	5·97
1889 -	8·43	7·06	8·34	6·57	6·97	6·89	5·94
1890 -	8·21	7·15	8·28	7·04	6·18	6·64	6·12
1891 -	7·66	7·39	7·22	7·29	8·06	6·63	6·05
Means	7·02	7·95	8·60	7·80	7·01	7·03	7·55

Marriage rates in Colonies compared.

79. According to an average extending over the whole of the years named in the table, the marriage rate in Victoria was almost identical with that in Western Australia and Tasmania, but was below that in any of the other Colonies; in the last year, however, the marriage rate was highest in Western Australia, and next highest in Victoria, whilst the Colonies in which it was lowest were New Zealand and Tasmania.

Marriages of divorced persons, 1891.

80. Divorced persons marrying are classed as bachelors and spinsters, unless in cases where they had become widowers or widows before contracting the marriage from which they were released by divorce. Twenty-two divorced men and 23 divorced women were married in 1891; 18 of the former married spinsters, and three widows; 18 of the latter married bachelors, and four widowers, and in one instance both parties to the marriage had been divorced. At least 30 of the 45 divorced persons marrying in 1891 had been divorced in the last two years. In the previous year only seven divorced men and 19 divorced women were re-married.

Deserted husbands and wives.

81. Persons whose wives or husbands have not been heard of for a period of seven years may marry again without rendering themselves liable to be prosecuted for bigamy; but such unions are subject to the serious disadvantage that the issue by the second marriage would be illegitimate, and the marriage itself

void, if it should turn out that the first husband or wife was alive at the time thereof. Owing probably to the facilities afforded by the Divorce Act, passed in 1889, for obtaining a divorce in such cases, only one deserted person (a male) availed himself of this provision in 1891. He married a widow, and had not heard of his former wife for nine years. In the previous year four deserted wives and one deserted husband re-married.

Divorce Act, 1889.

82. It may be mentioned that by the Divorce Act, 1889 (53 Vict., No. 1056), which received the Royal Assent on the 13th May 1890, it is provided that any married person domiciled in Victoria for two years and upwards may obtain a divorce, after which he or she may legally re-marry, on proving that he or she had, without just cause or excuse, been wilfully deserted, and continuously so deserted over a period of three years or upwards.

Ages of bridegrooms and brides in combination.

83. The age of both bridegroom and bride was specified in the case of all but 71 of the 8,780 marriages which took place in 1891. In 57 of the defective entries the age of neither party was given; in seven cases the age of the husband was stated, but not that of his wife; also in seven instances the age of the wife was given, but not that of the husband. The following table shows the ages of the husbands and of the wives in combination:—

Ages of Bridegrooms and Brides in combination, 1891.

Ages of Husbands.	Ages of Wives.																			Total Husbands.
	Under 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 to 75.	Unspecified.	
16 to 17 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
17 to 18 „	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
18 to 19 „	-	1	1	1	3	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
19 to 20 „	-	2	3	10	8	10	4	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	47
20 to 21 „	-	-	5	10	23	21	19	37	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122
21 to 25 „	1	2	24	59	149	218	255	1353	345	44	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2461
25 to 30 „	-	2	13	44	111	150	221	1523	1094	172	33	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	3376
30 to 35 „	-	1	3	8	19	49	56	484	515	239	60	17	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	1456
35 to 40 „	-	-	1	1	6	5	10	105	200	113	58	22	7	1	-	1	-	-	-	530
40 to 45 „	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	31	68	55	44	28	10	3	1	-	-	-	-	244
45 to 50 „	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	11	23	44	27	19	17	7	2	2	-	-	-	156
50 to 55 „	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	10	23	16	18	14	9	3	1	1	-	-	103
55 to 60 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	7	12	8	13	16	9	5	-	-	-	73
60 to 65 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	6	9	9	14	15	17	8	-	-	-	84
65 to 70 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	1	1	1	6	6	2	2	-	-	27
70 to 75 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	3	-	5	1	-	-	15
75 to 80 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	4
81 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Unspecified	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	64
Total Wives	1	8	51	136	322	463	572	3568	2269	709	269	134	82	63	38	25	4	2	64	8780

NOTE.—This table may be read thus:—Two men between 25 and 30 married girls between 15 and 16; nine women between 35 and 40 married men between 21 and 25, &c.

VICTORIA. 1891.

Relative ages of husband and wife.

84. An examination of the 8,709 cases in which the ages of both parties are specified will show that in 2,851 instances, or 33 per cent. of the whole, both parties to the marriage were about the same age; in 825 instances, or 9 per cent. of the whole, wife was older than the husband; and in 5,033 instances, orthe 58 per cent. of the whole, the husband was older than the wife.

Inequalities of age.

85. Some striking inequalities of age amongst the parties married appear in several of the columns, as, for instance, a man aged 81 married a woman between 21 and 25, one between 70 and 75 married a woman between 25 and 30; two men between 65 and 70 married women between 21 and 25; and two between 50 and 55 married girls under 21. On the other hand, three women between 21 and 25 married youths of 18; a woman between 30 and 35 married a youth of 20; three women between 50 and 55 married men between 30 and 35; a woman between 60 and 65 married a man between 35 and 40.

Extreme ages of marriage.

86. It will be noticed that two youths aged 16 and two aged 17 took upon themselves the cares and responsibilities of matrimony, their wives, moreover, being only a little older. On the other hand, it will be remarked that six men who had passed the age of 75, two of them being 81 years of age, entered the marriage state, the partners of three of them being also advanced in life.

Births, 1891.

87. The births registered in Victoria during 1891 numbered 38,505, as against 37,578 in 1890. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 927.

Births in 1891 and former years.

88. During the 20 years ended with 1883, the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which has continued during the seven subsequent years, the number of births in 1891 being the highest recorded.

Birth rate.

89. In proportion to population, the births decreased steadily for a number of years. The lowest point was reached in 1882, since which year there has been a gradual improvement, the birth rate in 1891, although slightly lower than in 1890, having been higher than it had been in any other year since 1876.

Births of males and females.

90. The births of males in Victoria during 1891 numbered 19,598, those of females 18,907. These numbers furnish a proportion of 103·66 boys to 100 girls. In 1890 the proportion was 104·19, in 1889 as high as 106·05, and in 1888, 104·33; whilst in the ten years 1881-90, 160,057 births of males and 152,508 births of females were registered, giving a proportion of 104·95 boys to 100 girls.

Twins and triplets.

91. In 1891, 407 twin births and three triple births were registered, as against 353 twin births and three triple births in 1890. In the ten years ended with 1890, 2,734 cases of twins and 20 cases of triplets were recorded, the total number of births in the same period having been 312,565. There were thus 309,791 confinements in the ten years, and it follows that one mother in every 113 gave birth to twins, and one mother in every 15,490 was delivered of three children at a birth. During the previous decade, 1871 to 1880, one mother in every 111, on the average, gave birth to twins, and one in every 12,796 was delivered of three children at a birth.

Illegitimate births.

92. The illegitimate children born in 1891 numbered 2,064, or one to every 19 births registered, which proportion was the same as in the preceding year. In the 10 years 1881–90, out of 312,565 infants born, 14,916 were traced as having been born out of wedlock, which numbers furnish a proportion of one illegitimate child to every 21 births, as compared with an average during the 10 years ended with 1880 of one to every 27 births.

Deaths, 1891.

93. The deaths registered in 1891 numbered 18,631, as against 18,012 in 1890. The increase in the year under notice was thus 619, or 3½ per cent.

Deaths, 1891, and former years.

94. In 1889, for the first time, the deaths exceeded 19,000, and although those in 1891 did not reach that number, they were more numerous than those in any other previous year. In 1887 and 1888 they did not much exceed 16,000; in 1886 they numbered less than 15,000, but in only one prior year, viz., 1875, did they reach that number. The high mortality in the last-named year, in which 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form.

Excess of births over deaths.

95. The births in 1891 exceeded the deaths by 19,874, or 107 per cent., the corresponding proportion being 109 per cent. in the previous year. The proportion in 1891 was exceeded in all but eight of the previous 25 years. In the 10 years ended with 1890 the proportion averaged 107 per cent., and in the 10 years ended with 1880 it averaged 119 per cent., whilst during the whole period of 26 years ended with 1891 the average was 116 per cent.

Natural increase of population.

96. During the 10 years, 1882–91, the population of Victoria increased at the average rate of 1·66 per cent. by excess of births over deaths, at which rate, irrespective of immigration, the population would double itself in 42 years. The rates varied from a minimum of 1·49 in 1882 to a maximum of 1·77 in 1890, as will be seen by the following figures:—

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Increase of Population by Excess of Births over Deaths, 1882 *to* 1891.

	Per cent.		Per cent.
1882 - -	1·49	1888 - -	1·76
1883 - -	1·62	1889 - -	1·58
1884 - -	1·67	1890 - -	1·77
1885 - -	1·65	1891 - -	1·76
1886 - -	1·64		
1887 - -	1·70	Mean - -	1·66

Deaths of males and females.

97. In Victoria, deaths of males in 1891 numbered 10,666, and deaths of females, 7,965. These numbers furnish a proportion of nearly 75 females to every 100 males, as against a proportion of 74 females to every 100 males in the 10 years 1882–91, and of 74 to every 100 in the 10 years 1872–81. Females in the total population were in the proportion of 90 to every 100 males during 1891 and the last decennial period, and 88 during the preceding decennium; therefore at each period more males and fewer females died than their relative numbers in the population might have given reason to expect.

Annual death rate.

98. The following table shows the estimated mean population of either sex, the number of deaths of either sex, and the death rate of males and females, and of both sexes, during each of the last 31 years:—

Annual Death Rate, 1861 *to* 1891.

Year.	Estimated Mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1861 -	324,988	214,836	6,124	4,398	18·84	20·47	19·49
1862 -	322,916	225,164	5,900	4,180	18·27	18·56	18·39
1863 -	325,680	237,280	5,646	3,856	17·34	16·25	16·88
1864 -	335,272	251,178	5,202	3,685	15·51	14·67	15·15
1865 -	347,083	264,135	6,158	4,303	17·74	16·29	17·11
1866 -	353,941	275,097	7,016	5,270	19·82	19·16	19·53
1867 -	359,642	284,634	6,613	5,120	18·39	17·99	18·21
1868 -	367,752	295,340	5,865	4,202	15·95	14·23	15·18
1869 -	379,396	307,806	6,221	4,409	16·40	14·32	15·47
1870 -	392,159	321,036	6,114	4,306	15·59	13·41	14·61
1871 -	403,319	333,686	5,845	4,073	14·49	12·21	13·46
1872 -	409,081	344,117	6,308	4,523	15·42	13·14	14·38
1873 -	412,597	352,914	6,565	4,936	15·91	13·99	15·02
1874 -	416,725	360,931	6,994	5,228	16·78	14·48	15·72
1875 -	419,779	367,558	8,563	6,724	20·40	18·29	19·42
1876 -	422,931	373,627	7,716	5,845	18·24	15·64	17·02
1877 -	427,727	380,878	7,345	5,431	17·17	14·26	15·80
1878 -	433,153	388,313	7,179	5,523	16·57	14·22	15·46
1879 -	438,563	395,467	7,033	5,087	16·04	12·86	14·53
1880 -	446,445	403,898	6,610	5,042	14·81	12·48	13·70
1881 -	456,107	412,835	7,024	5,278	15·40	12·78	14·16
1882 -	467,130	422,590	7,900	5,734	16·91	13·57	15·32
1883 -	478,010	432,120	7,410	5,596	15·50	12·95	14·29

Year.	Estimated Mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1884 -	490,460	442,170	7,675	5,830	15·65	13·21	14·48
1885 -	504,000	452,880	8,300	6,064	16·47	13·39	15·01
1886 -	519,970	464,890	8,575	5,377	16·49	13·72	15·18
1887 -	537,920	478,830	9,213	6,792	17·13	14·19	15·74
1888 -	558,700	496,280	9,385	6,902	16·80	13·90	15·44
1889 -	576,520	513,830	11,064	8,328	19·19	16·21	17·78
1890 -	589,310	529,190	10,369	7,643	17·60	14·44	16·10
1891 -	600,860	546,070	10,666	7,965	17·75	14·59	16·24
Average of 31 years - -					16·90	14·59	15·83

NOTE.—In 1861, 1866, and 1875, and to a certain extent in the preceding and in the succeeding years, the death rate was swelled by epidemics of measles and scarlatina.

Death rates in town and country, 1891.

99. In every country the death rate is higher in towns than it is in the extra urban districts. The circumstance, although no doubt partly attributable to the superior healthfulness and immunity from contagion prevailing in the latter, is also to a great extent due to the fact that hospitals and charitable institutions, which are frequented by patients from the country as well as by town residents, are generally situated in the towns; and further, that outside of charitable institutions many persons die who have come from the country on the approach of serious illness for the sake of the superior nursing and medical attendance to be obtained in town. In 1891 the death rate was much lower in Melbourne and suburbs than in the country towns, whilst in the former it was nearly twice as high, and in the latter more than twice as high as in the country districts. The rate in Melbourne was considerably below, but that for country towns and for rural districts was much above, the average of the previous 10 years. The following are the figures:—

Deaths in Urban and Country Districts, 1891.

Districts.	Estimated Mean Population.	Deaths, 1891.		
		Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.	
			1891.	Annual Mean, 1881-90.
Melbourne and suburbs (Greater Melbourne).	491,700	9,368	19·05	20·65
Extra-metropolitan towns	195,940	4,465	22·79	19·90
Country districts - -	459,290	4,798	10·45	8·90
Total -	1,146,930	18,631	16·24	15·20

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Royal Mint.

100. A branch of the Royal Mint was established in Melbourne in 1872 and was opened to the public on the 12th June of that year. The premises occupy 2 acres 1 rood and 26 perches of land, valued in October 1880 at 8,500*l.*, but now probably worth ten times that amount; the original cost of the buildings, machinery, fittings, and furniture was 68,350*l.*

Gold received at Mint.

101. From the time of the opening of the Mint to the end of 1891, 12⅔ million ounces of gold were received thereat. In point of average purity, the gold sent to the Mint is considerably above the standard (viz., 22 carats, worth 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz.), and thus the value of the whole quantity was rather over 51⅓ millions sterling, or almost exactly 4*l.* per oz. The following table shows the quantity and value of the gold received in each year:—

Gold received at the Melbourne Mint, 1872 to 1891.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Oz.	£
1872	190,765	765,024
1873	221,904	887,256
1874	335,366	1,349,290
1875	489,823	1,948,067
1876	543,304	2,149,890
1877	378,410	1,492,207
1878	570,079	2,268,001
1879	656,724	2,638,393
1880	758,937	3,062,663
1881	692,425	2,793,810
1882	819,142	3,311,894
1883	786,021	3,159,609
1884	945,709	3,803,320
1885	836,433	3,351,767
1886	756,611	3,029,783
1887	770,222	3,075,487
1888	757,813	3,023,414
1889	761,931	3,030,958
1890	752,923	3,003,635
1891	805,231	3,208,352
Total	12,829,773	51,352,820

Gold received in standard ounces.

101. A simple calculation, based upon the total value as shown in the lowest line of the last column of the table, will show that the gold received amounted to 13,188,525 ounces standard, valued at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per ounce, or 358,752 ounces more than the actual weight of gold received at the Mint.

Gold received, 1891.

103. It will be observed that the gold received at the Mint in 1891 was more by 52,308 ounces than the quantity in 1890, and was also more than in any other year since 1885.

Gold coin issued.

104. The difference in value between the gold coin issued from the Mint in 1890 and 1891 was 276,000*l*, the excess being in favour of the latter. The gold coin issued in 1891 was less than

that in 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, or 1880; it was, however, in excess of that in any other year.

105. During 1891 there were 17 banks of issue in Victoria, possessing therein 510 branches or agencies. There were only 11 banks of issue in the Colony both in 1886 and 1881. Number of banks.

106. The position of the banks as regards liabilities, assets, capital and profits, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the three years just named, was as follows:— Liabilities, assets, &c. of banks.

Financial Position of Banks, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

——	1881.	1886.	1891.
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Notes in circulation	1,339,495	1,399,208	1,414,216
Bills in circulation	60,198	92,981	115,606
Balances due to other banks	330,414	354,328	298,328
Deposits not bearing interest	7,425,356	7,239,681	9,894,548
„ bearing interest	13,726,554	23,999,791	30,521,519
Total	22,902,017	33,085,989	42,244,217
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	2,695,474	4,565,990	6,801,989
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	313,017	366,950	322,508
Landed and other property	901,253	1,222,260	2,185,423
Notes and bills of other banks	144,034	151,089	188,660
Balances due from other banks	336,611	239,556	451,342
Debts due to the banks	22,783,420	34,625,144	53,770,624
Total	27,173,809	41,170,989	63,720,546
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.			
Capital stock paid up	9,143,122	9,568,418	13,563,255
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared.	9·981 per cent.	12·141 per cent.	12·139 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared	456,300	580,875	823,274
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend.	2,694,329	4,669,116	6,913,634

107. It will be observed that the shareholders' capital (including reserves) amounted in 1891 to nearly 20½ millions, having increased by 8,640,000*l.*, or by nearly three-fourths, since 1881. The total liabilities show an increase of 19⅓ millions, or 84 per cent., since 1881, or of more than 9 millions, or 28 per cent., since 1886; whilst the total assets increased by 36½ millions, or 135 per cent., since 1881, and by 22¼ millions, or 55 per cent., since 1886. This expansion in banking business has been Liabilities, assets, &c., compared at three periods.

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greater than that of the population, which, during the 10 years ended with 1891 increased by only 31 per cent. Of the liabilities the notes and bills in circulation have increased only 8 per cent. since 1881, and 2½ per cent. since 1886, the former being restricted by a Government tax and other charges, which are said to average as much as 3½ per cent. The deposits, which now compose 96 per cent. of the total liabilities, have increased by over 19¼ millions in the last 10, and by more than 9 millions in the last 5, years, and now amount to nearly 40½ millions. Under the head of assets it will be noticed that in 1891 the banks had 7⅛ millions sterling in coin and bullion, which was slightly less (59,000*l.*) than in 1890, but 590,000*l.* more than in 1889, and was nearly 2⅓ millions more than in 1886, and considerably more than twice as much as in 1881; the landed property also represented nearly 2⅕ millions sterling, showing an increase of over 963,000*l.* since 1886, or of 1,284,000*l.* since 1881; but the most important item of all, the advances (debts due to the banks), which embrace 84 per cent. of the total assets, shows a marked advance in recent years, for since 1881 they have increased by nearly 31 millions, and since 1886 by more than 19 millions, and thus in 1891 they amounted to 53¾ millions sterling. It will be observed that in 1891 the advances exceeded the deposits by 13⅓ millions as against an excess of but 3½ millions in 1886 and only 1⅔ millions in 1881. The average rate of the last dividend declared in 1891 (12*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* per 100*l.*) was about the same as the middle period, but much higher than at the first period. This dividend, it may be remarked, varied in different banks in 1891 from 5 to 17½ per cent.

Savings banks.

108. Two kinds of savings banks exist in Victoria, the general savings banks, which were first established in 1842, and the Post Office savings banks, which were established in 1865. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having accounts at the last dates of balancing in 1891, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates:—

Savings Banks, 1891.

Description of Institution.	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
			Total.	Average to each Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Post Office savings banks	370	107,671	2,083,203	19 6 11
General savings banks	18	193,110	3,632,484	18 16 2
Total	388	300,781	5,715,687	19 0 1

Rate of interest in savings banks.

109. The highest rate of interest savings banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent., which rate was

paid in all the years. Interest is allowed on the minimum monthly balance, but not on any amounts which do not remain in the savings banks for a full month.

Male and female depositors.

110. In the general savings banks, the male depositors in 1891 numbered 106,637, and the female depositors 86,473, or about 81 of the latter to 100 of the former. In the general population the proportion of females per 100 males is 91, so that relatively to their respective numbers females do not appear to use the savings banks as much as males.

Small depositors.

111. Nearly four-fifths of the depositors in general savings banks have less than 20*l.* to their credit, and nearly a tenth have between 20*l.* and 50*l.*

Savings banks in Melbourne.

112. The deposits in the general savings banks of Melbourne and suburbs amount to over three-fifths of the whole, and the depositors to about two-thirds.

Savings banks in Australasian Colonies.

113. The following is a statement of the number of depositors and their proportion to population, also the total and average amount standing to their credit in the savings banks of the various Australasian Colonies at the end of 1890:—

Savings Banks in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

(Including both general and Post Office savings banks.)

Colony.	Number of Depositors.		Amount remaining on Deposit.	
	Total.	Per 100 of Population.	Total.	Average to each Depositor.
	£		£	£ s. d.
Victoria - - -	288,240	25·44	5,405,644	18 15 1
New South Wales - -	143,826	12·73	4,730,469	32 17 9
Queensland - - -	45,885	11·73	1,666,855	36 6 6
South Australia - -	70,873	22·75	2,078,576	29 6 7
Western Australia - -	3,014	6·13	31,486	10 8 11
Tasmania - - -	25,324	17·43	521,250	20 11 9
New Zealand - -	118,344	18·92	3,137,023	26 10 2
Total - -	695,506	18·37	17,571,303	25 5 3

Rate of interest in Australasian savings banks.

114. In Victoria the rate of interest paid in both descriptions of savings banks is 4 per cent., as already stated, but the rate paid in the other Australasian Colonies is often higher than in Victoria. Thus, in New South Wales, whilst the rate in the Post Office savings banks is 4 per cent., as in Victoria, that in the general savings banks is 5 per cent. for accounts remaining open at end of year, only 4 per cent., however, being allowed on closed accounts; in Queensland the rate is 4 per cent. on deposits below 200*l.*; in South Australia it is 5 per cent.; in Tasmania the rates are 5 per cent. on sums up to 150*l.* in the general, and 3½ per cent. in the Post Office savings banks; and in New

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Zealand they are 5 and 4½ per cent. respectively. On the other hand, the rate is only 3¾ per cent. in Western Australia.

Order of Colonies in respect to proportion of depositors to population.

115. In proportion to population, the number of depositors is greatest in Victoria, and the next in South Australia, in both of which the proportion is much higher than in the other Colonies. The following is the order of the Colonies in this respect:—

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportion of Depositors in Savings Banks to Population.

1. Victoria,
2. South Australia.
3. New Zealand.
4. Tasmania.
5. New South Wales.
6. Queensland.
7. Western Australia.

Order of Colonies in respect to average amount of deposits.

116. Judged by the average amounts to the credit of depositors the savings banks of Queensland, New South Wales, and South Australia appear to attract the larger capitalists in a greater degree than any of the other Colonies; but those of Victoria, more than any other Colony, except Western Australia, appear rather to attract persons of small means, for whom savings banks are specially established. The following is the order of the Colonies in reference to the average balance lying to the credit of each depositor:—

Order of Colonies in reference to Average Balance of Depositors in Savings Banks.

1. Queensland.
2. New South Wales.
3. South Australia.
4. New Zealand.
5. Tasmania.
6. Victoria.
7. Western Australia.

Imports, exports, and trade.

117. In 1891 the total declared value of the Victorian imports was 21,711,608*l.*, and that of the exports 16,006,743*l.*; the excess of imports over exports was 5,704,865*l.*, and the whole value of external trade was 37,718,351*l.*

Imports and exports last two years.

118. The value of imports was lower in 1891 than in 1890 by 1,242,407*l.*, or by 5½ per cent., but the value of exports was higher than in that year by 2,740,521*l.*, or by 21 per cent. The value of the total trade was thus higher than in the previous year by 1,498,114*l.*

Imports and exports latest and former years.

119. The imports in 1891, as indicated by their values, were larger than in any other year of the Colony's history, except 1888, 1889, and 1890; whilst the exports, according to the same standard, showed a decided advance on the exceptionally small volume of export trade which prevailed in the years 1886 to 1890, and were higher than in any previous years except 1884, 1883, 1882, and 1881.

Imports and exports per head.

120. In the year under review, the value per head of imports was lower by 1*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*, but the value per head of exports was higher by 2*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, than in 1890.

121. The following table gives the total value and value per head of articles of Victorian produce exported, and their proportion to the total exports, in each of the last 25 years:—

Exports of Victorian produce.

Exports of Victorian Produce, 1867 *to* 1891.

Year.	Exports of Articles produced or manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per head of the Population.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79
1882	12,570,788	14 2 7	77·63
1883	13,292,294	14 12 1	81·06
1884	13,155,484	14 2 1	81·96
1885	12,452,245	13 0 3	80·06
1886	9,054,687	9 3 11	76·77
1887	8,502,979	8 7 3	74·91
1888	10,356,633	9 16 4	74·76
1889	9,776,670	8 19 4	76·77
1890	10,291,821	9 4 0	77·58
1891	13,026,426	11 7 2	81·38

Decrease of exports of Victorian products.

122. It should be pointed out that the returns of articles set down as produced or manufactured in Victoria are not always reliable, there being no other evidence as to the origin of such articles than the statements of the shippers, which, it is known, are sometimes made very loosely. It will be seen that, according to the figures, the total value of exports of local productions shows a considerable improvement in 1891 on the exceptionally low values which prevailed in the previous six years. The worst year was 1887, when such value was lower than in any of the previous 20 years, except 1879, and the value of such exports per head was absolutely the lowest in the whole period; but in 1891 the local export trade was higher than in any previous year except 1883 and 1884, although in proportion to population, it was still much lower than in the great majority of years prior to 1886. The proportion of exports of home products to the total exports was higher in 1891 than in any previous year except 1884.

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Imports of principal articles at three periods.

123. The value of sixty-six of the principal articles imported in 1891, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia are placed side by side in the following table:—

Imports of Principal Articles, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports.		
		1881.	1886.	1891.
		£	£	£
1	Books	198,288	194,236	234,350
	Stationery	83,455	104,583	84,891
2	Musical Instruments	93,684	127,917	113,748
6	Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials.	68,248	68,563	73,082
9	Cutlery	23,426	29,272	46,312
	Machinery	103,337	166,663	257,957
	Sewing machines	83,224	51,491	70,145
	Tools and utensils	40,165	39,962	58,154
12	Building materials	58,340	160,774	130,638
13	Furniture and upholstery	55,226	93,779	68,163
14	Drugs and chemicals	76,316	104,584	78,130
	Matches and vestas	45,597	48,651	61,478
	Opium	54,820	41,651	32,963
	Paints and colours	51,133	64,611	79,318
15	Carpeting and druggeting	73,035	94,259	88,024
	Woollens and woollen piece goods	663,397	892,868	903,657
16	Silks	263,946	312,728	306,199
17	Cottons	872,691	1,027,674	973,704
	Linen piece goods and manufactures	23,251	42,160	35,967
18	Haberdashery	326,394	420,608	239,236
19	Apparel and slops	279,767	389,814	519,948
	Boots and shoes	105,379	105,828	153,433
	Gloves	89,512	111,086	118,610
	Hats, caps, and bonnets	117,087	122,377	96,779
	Hosiery	105,124	132,195	143,634
20	Bags and sacks (including woolpacks)	208,169	86,638	206,032
21	Butter and cheese	813	6,758	18,107
	Fish	132,569	163,840	139,395
	Meats—fresh, preserved and salted	8,826	17,547	39,500
22	Fruit (including currants and raisins)	186,876	205,533	319,859
	Flour and biscuit	3,536	16,429	16,434
	Grain—wheat	22,928	26,257	55,719
	„ oats	87,888	76,456	28,767
	„ other (including malt and rice)	235,699	135,173	91,313
	Sugar and molasses	1,004,869	853,399	1,051,838
23	Beer, cider, and perry	161,673	260,650	270,491
	Coffee	68,271	50,222	44,130
	Hops	42,332	23,285	13,367
	Spirits	426,864	380,232	466,427
	Tea	942,603	668,472	626,173
	Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	185,815	291,684	304,491
	Wine	131,426	116,606	130,038
24	Hides, skins, and pelts	96,084	129,102	159,478
	Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth.	143,697	167,518	159,419
	Wool	2,887,260	2,331,599	3,372,154
25	Paper (including paper bags)	188,275	250,530	301,908
	Timber	481,925	1,170,539	897,264
	Woodenware	42,274	55,662	43,113
26	Oil of all kinds	203,760	219,691	282,794
28	Coal	313,581	510,768	837,810
29	Earthenware, brownware, and china-ware.	83,013	105,260	98,918

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports, 1881.	1886.	1891.
		£	£	£
	Glass and glassware	87,721	157,788	117,851
31	Gold (exclusive of specie)	790,243	569,442	716,510
	Specie—gold	40	32,593	325,562
	„ other	113,596	33,392	39,383
	Jewellery	73,075	54,310	40,171
32	Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.)	479,887	748,602	878,509
	Lead—ore, pig, pipe, sheet	13,230	24,048	42,493
	Manufactures of metal	60,482	147,434	180,282
	Tin	54,894	43,503	59,240
	Nails and screws	50,993	45,006	20,927
	Plated ware	22,743	32,404	72,695
33	Live stock	757,276	928,505	1,553,727
35	Fancy goods	59,067	90,958	57,545
	Hardware and ironmongery	116,373	226,204	157,276
	Oilmen's stores	15,234	30,035	35,838
	Total	14,938,722	16,432,485	19,241,468
	All other articles	1,779,799	2,098,090	2,470,140
	Total Imports	16,718,521	18,530,575	21,711,608

124. Of all the articles named in the table, the most important, according to the values in 1891, are wool—including that brought overland from New South Wales—live stock, sugar, gold, cottons, woollens, timber, iron and steel, coal, tea, and apparel and slops, in the order named, the values of which varied in 1891 from 3,372,000*l.* for wool, to 516,000*l.* for apparel and slops. The aggregate value of these eleven items amounted in 1891 to close on 12,657,000*l.*, or to more than half the total value of all the articles imported. It may be mentioned that the value in 1881 of all these articles was 9,473,500*l.*, in 1886 10,124,000*l.*, and in 1890 12,904,000*l.*, so that the value in 1891, although somewhat lower than in 1890, was much higher than in the earlier years named. Eleven chief articles of import, 1891.

125. The total imports show an increased value in 1891, as compared with 1886, of over three millions, and as compared with 1881, of five millions; while the imports of the articles named in the table have increased by nearly three millions, and over four and a quarter millions respectively. More than half the items show considerable increase at the last period as compared with either of the former periods, and of these the more important are books, cutlery, machinery, tools and utensils, apparel and slops, boots and shoes, preserved meats, fruit, wheat, spirits, tobacco, hides, wool, paper, oil, coal, gold, iron and steel, lead, plated ware, metal manufactures, and live stock. The imports of wool show an increase as compared with 1886 of 1,040,000*l.*, live stock of 625,000*l.*, gold coin and bullion of 440,000*l.*, coal of 327,000*l.*, iron and apparel and slops of 130,000*l.* each, and fruit of 114,000*l.* Several of the items of imports show decrease at the last period as compared with either of the former ones, the chief being haberdashery, grain other than wheat (including oats and hops). Imports of three periods compared.

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126. The exports of fifty of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same three years:—

Exports of principal articles at three periods.

Exports of Principal Articles, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Exports.		
		1881.	1886.	1891.
		£	£	£
1	Books	80,324	73,295	70,172
	Stationery	39,396	34,958	42,337
9	Machinery	122,464	67,862	162,901
15	Woollens and woollen piece goods	92,492	79,751	76,209
16	Silks	24,830	31,867	48,395
17	Cottons	92,040	68,930	98,986
18	Haberdashery	49,454	77,815	45,702
19	Apparel and slops	278,756	218,012	191,762
	Boots and shoes	93,012	49,260	47,197
20	Bags and sacks	50,280	86,638	34,724
21	Butter and cheese	100,987	91,322	234,265
	Meats, fresh and preserved	113,426	89,126	22,498
	„ salted (including hams and bacon).	29,117	19,862	6,504
22	Fruits (including currants and raisins)	43,702	76,239	69,113
	Flour and biscuit	241,386	392,521	488,347
	Grain—wheat	689,254	166,916	909,636
	„ oats	12,964	6,787	6,819
	„ other (including malt and rice)	104,451	35,093	43,212
	Onions	20,364	34,696	32,936
	Potatoes	57,091	120,532	52,685
	Sugar and molasses	277,562	144,631	175,495
28	Coffee	32,480	23,959	5,548
	Spirits	110,012	85,324	96,951
	Tea	292,606	322,299	338,813
	Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	154,545	111,729	103,776
	Wine	42,964	56,251	69,785
24	Bones and bone dust	13,774	10,174	12,731
	Candles	11,690	16,460	7,910
	Horns and hoofs	1,118	1,005	3,805
	Hides	6,239	9,581	19,905
	Skins and pelts	108,664	98,763	206,729
	Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	329,906	281,477	232,130
	Soap	12,496	13,745	28,795
	Tallow	247,372	120,900	163,412
	Wool	5,450,066	4,999,662	7,165,092
25	Bark	21,163	30,782	84,132
	Hay, straw and chaff	81,196	174,139	163,653
	Timber	37,774	21,336	40,777
26	Oil of all kinds	68,192	28,571	32,218
31	Gold (exclusive of specie)	1,646,930	336,874	423,709
	Specie—gold	3,090,999	1,610,829	2,217,734
	„ silver	480	6,623	20,950
32	Antimony ore, regulus, &c.	14,284	35	1,642
	Copper ore, regulus, &c.	15,975	12,104	2,984
	Iron, &c.	122,779	47,041	77,329
	Manufactures of metals	45,840	37,127	51,571
	Tin, tin ore, black sand	2,518	4,080	2,413
33	Live stock	459,254	393,516	457,394
35	Hardware and ironmongery	70,739	32,734	49,486
	Travellers' samples	52,776	71,049	81,797
	Total	15,157,283	10,924,282	15,023,076
	All other articles	1,094,820	871,039	983,667
	Total Exports	16,252,103	11,795,321	16,006,743

127. It appears from this table that the chief articles of Victorian export are wool, of which the value in 1891 was 7,165,000*l.*, and gold (inclusive of specie), valued at 2,641,400*l.*, which two articles alone contributed 61 per cent. to the total value of exports of all articles; next in order in 1891 were breadstuffs, 1,398,000*l.*, and live stock, 457,000*l.*; then tea, butter and cheese, leather, hides and skins, apparel and slops, sugar, and hay and chaff, in the order named—the values of which varied in 1891 between 339,000*l.* and 164,000*l.* It will be noticed, however, that of these sugar (excepting so far as the process of refining is concerned) and tea are not produced in Victoria, but are merely re-exports. The value of the eleven articles just named amounted in 1891 to 13,224,664*l.*, which leaves the balance of 2,782,079*l.* distributed over all the other heads. Eleven chief articles of export, 1891.

128. The value of the total exports in 1891 shows a considerable improvement since 1886, although it is lower than the value in 1881 by a quarter of a million. As against the first period, about one-third of the articles specified show decrease, the most important being gold, grain (other than wheat), sugar, spirits, tobacco, meats, candles, tallow, leather, woollens, apparel and slops, bags and sacks, boots and shoes, iron, &c., and antimony ore. The falling-off under some of these articles, however, such as sugar, spirits, and tobacco, is merely indicative of a decline in the re-export trade. On the other hand there was more or less increase, as compared with both the previous periods, in the exports of fully two-fifths of the articles named in the table—the more important of which were butter and cheese, wheat and flour, tea, wine, horns and hoofs, hides, skins and pelts, soap, wool, and bark. The exports of gold fell off by nearly 2,100,000*l.* as compared with 1881, but increased by 700,000*l.* as compared with 1886; those of breadstuffs were higher by nearly 470,000*l.* than in 1881, and by nearly 840,000*l.* than in 1886; whilst those of wool were higher by about 1,700,000*l.*, and by nearly 2,200,000*l.* respectively. Owing to the stimulation afforded by Government bonuses, the export of butter considerably more than doubled that recorded for the previous period. Exports of three periods compared.

129. The number of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports in 1891 was larger by 158 than in 1890, smaller by 650 than in 1889, and by 263 than in 1888, but larger than in any other former years; the tonnage in 1891 was more by 351,768 than in 1890, about 100,000 more than 1889, and considerably larger than in any other year. The following table contains a statement of the number, tonnage, and crews of vessels inwards and outwards in three successive periods with intervals of ten years, also during each of the last five years:— Vessels inwards and outwards

Vessels Entered and Cleared, 1870 *to* 1891.

Year.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			Total Entered and Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1870 -	2,093	663,764	32,838	2,187	681,098	33,836	4,280	1,344,862
1880 -	2,076	1,078,885	51,585	2,115	1,101,014	52,153	4,191	2,179,899
1887 -	2,435	1,920,180	80,918	2,418	1,938,063	79,888	4,853	3,858,243
1888 -	2,724	2,182,071	85,879	2,630	2,125,812	84,233	5,354	4,307,883
1889 -	2,855	2,270,827	89,187	2,886	2,328,351	89,489	5,741	4,599,178
1890 -	2,474	2,178,551	85,818	2,459	2,184,790	85,163	4,933	4,363,341
1891 -	2,531	2,338,864	92,861	2,560	2,376,245	93.179	5,091	4,715,109

Farm holdings and number of cultivators.

130. The total number of farm holdings returned in 1891–92 was 35,945 of which 34,849 were in shires and 1,096 in cities, towns, or boroughs. The land under cultivation was 2,687,575 acres, or 34,807 acres more than in the previous year.

Land under principal crops.

131. The principal crops grown are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, hay, and green forage. The following table shows the extent of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons:—

Land under Principal Crops, 1891 *and* 1892.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1891 - - -	1,145,163	221,048	87,751	53,818	413,052	245,332
1892 - - -	1,332,683	190,157	45,021	57,334	369,498	184,184
Increase -	187,520	—	—	3,516	—	—
Decrease -	—	30,891	42,730	—	43,554	61,148

Produce of principal crops.

132. The following is a statement of the gross produce of these crops (except green forage, of which no account is kept), in the same two years:—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1891 *and* 1892.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1891 - - -	12,751,295	4,919,325	1,571,599	204,155	567,779
1892 - - -	13,679,268	4,455,551	844,198	200,523	514,406
Increase -	927,973	—	—	—	—
Decrease -	—	463,774	727,401	3,632	53,373

133. The average produce per acre of these crops was as follows in the last 10 years :—

Average per acre of principal crops.

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1883 *to* 1892.

Year ended March—	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1883 - - -	9·03	26·17	17·35	3·78	1·06
1884 - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	4·01	1·43
1885 - - -	9·52	23·40	17·38	4·16	1·09
1886 - - -	8·99	21·72	17·58	3·83	1·05
1887 - - -	11·49	22·91	22·36	3·41	1·09
1888 - - -	10·81	22·92	23·34	4·11	1·41
1889 - - -	7·10	14·20	13·55	3·04	0·75
1890 - - -	9·75	23·87	20·18	3·33	1·48
1891 - - -	11·13	22·25	17·91	3·79	1·37
1892 - - -	10·26	23·43	18·75	3·50	1·39
Mean - -	10·22	22·59	19·12	3·70	1·21

Live stock, 1891 and 1892.

134. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the recent census, and these are compared in the following table with the numbers for March 1892, brought on since the census by means of estimates furnished by the municipal authorities :—

Live Stock, 1891 *and* 1892.

Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
5th April 1891 (enumerated).	436,459	395,091	1,387,887	1,782,978	12,692,843	282,457
March 1892 (estimated).	440,696	405,973	1,406,131	1,812,104	12,928,148	286,780
Increase -	4,237	10,882	18,244	29,126	235,305	4,323

Goats, asses, and mules.

135. Besides the live stock returned, as shown in the table, 44,482 goats, 139 asses, and 224 mules were enumerated at the census of 1891.

Stock per square mile.

136. There are now in Victoria 5 horses, 21 head of cattle, 147 sheep, and 3 pigs, or taking the different kinds together, 176 head of stock of these descriptions, large and small, to the square mile.

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Value of agricultural and pastoral produce.

137. The estimated gross values of agricultural and pastoral produce for the year 1891–92 were as follows:—

Gross Value of Agricultural and Pastoral Produce, 1891–92.

	£
Agricultural produce - -	7,752,855
Pastoral „ - - -	11,380,236
Total - -	19,133,091

Manufactories, works, &c. in Victoria.

138. The following is the number of manufactories, works, &c. in Victoria for the year 1892, together with the hands employed and value of lands, buildings, machinery, and plant:—

Manufactories, Works &c., 1892.*

Number of establishments - - -	3,141
Hands employed - - -	52,225
Value of lands, buildings, machinery, and plant - - - - -	16,472,859*l.*

Gold raised, 1890 and 1891.

139. The gold raised in Victoria in 1891 was 576,400 ozs., which is less than the quantity obtained in 1890 by 12,161 ozs., representing, at 4*l.* per oz., a decreased value of 48,644*l.* The following are the figures for the two years:—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1890 *and* 1891.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at 4*l.* per oz.
	oz.	£
1890 - - -	588,561	2,354,244
1891 - - -	576,400	2,305,600
Decrease - -	12,161	48,644

Gold raised, 1851 to 1891.

140. Carrying on to the end of 1891 the calculations given in previous years, the quantity of gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery, about the middle of 1851, is estimated at 57,415,759 ozs. which at 4*l.* per oz. would give a total value of 229,663,036*l.*

University.

141. The Melbourne University, which has been established since 1855, receives an endowment or subsidy from the State of 16,500*l.* per annum. In the Act of Incorporation it is provided that no religious test shall be administered to anyone to entitle him to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the institution.

* For a complete list of manufactories, *see* Digest for 1889, page 70.

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The Council are empowered to grant, in any faculty except divinity, any degree, diploma, certificate, or license which can be conferred in any University in the British dominions. A Chair of Music has also been established in connexion with the University, for the endowment of which the Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C., contributed the sum of 20,000*l.* On the 22nd March 1880, the University was thrown open to females, and they can now be admitted to all its corporate privileges. Affiliated to the University are three colleges in connexion with the Church of England, the Presbyterian, and the Wesleyan Church respectively, and named respectively Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's; Ormond College is named after the late Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C. who contributed 42,000*l.* in his lifetime, and at his death bequeathed a further sum of 40,000*l.* towards its erection and endowment. The University Hall, built at a cost of about 40,000*l.*, is called the "Wilson Hall," after Sir Samuel Wilson, now a member of the British House of Commons, who contributed the greater portion of the funds for its erection. Since the opening of the University 3,062 students matriculated, and 1,681 degrees were granted, of which 1,337 were direct, and 344 *ad eundem*. The students who matriculated in 1890 numbered 154, and the graduates in the same year numbered 109.

State education.

142. The State education system of Victoria, the basis of which is that secular instruction shall be provided, without payment, for children whose parents may be willing to accept it, but that whether accepted or not, satisfactory evidence must be produced that all children up to the age of 13 are educated up to a given standard, has been most successful in its operation; and for securing the object sought to be obtained, it is believed, compares favourably with that of any other country in the world. In 1872, just before the present system came into operation, the number of children returned as on the rolls of State schools was 136,055, whilst in 1891, after the system had been in force for 18 years, the number had increased to 253,469, or by 81 per cent., the increase of children at the school age in the population during the same period having been only about 20 per cent Besides the ordinary course of instruction, which is quite elementary, free instruction is also given to a large number of scholars in drill, gymnastics, singing, and drawing; the Kindergarten system of instruction for young children has been introduced; and lectures in cookery and agriculture are also given in some of the principal schools, whilst extra subjects are taught on payment of a small charge.

Exhibitions and scholarships.

143. The higher education for State school scholars is provided for by a certain number of scholarships, of the annual value of 10*l.*, tenable for three years, which are annually awarded to the most clever and industrious pupils of State schools under 15 years of age, who are selected by competitive examination to enable them to pursue advanced studies at the principal grammar schools, schools of mines, agricultural colleges, or other schools approved of by the Minister. Moreover, for the purpose of enabling the most intelligent of these scholars to finish their education at the University,

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11 exhibitions, each of the yearly value of 40*l.*, tenable for four years, are annually awarded for competition amongst the holders of the scholarships.

Private schools.

144. Besides the State schools, which are attended by five sixths of the children under instruction in the Colony, there were in 1892, 759 private schools attended by 37,203 scholars. Some of these private schools are attached to religious denominations, as many as 208, with 21,799 scholars, being connected with the Roman Catholic Church. Six are called colleges or grammar schools, two of which are connected with the Church of England, two with the Roman Catholic, one with the Presbyterian, and one with the Wesleyan Church. In these, as well as in some of the other private schools, a very high class of education, quite equal to that obtained in the best public schools in England, is given.

Wages.

145. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1891. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

Wages in Melbourne.

RETURN of the Rates of Wages paid in Melbourne during the Year 1891.

	Description of Labour.		Rate.
	1.—DOMESTIC SERVANTS.		
Males	Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners	per week, with board and lodging	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Males	Butlers	„ „	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females	Cooks	per annum, „	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Females	Laundresses	„ „	40*l.* to 52*l.*
Females	Housemaids	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Nursemaids	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	General servants	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Girls	per week, „	8*s.* to 10*s.*
	2.—HOTEL SERVANTS.		
Males	Barmen	per week, with board and lodging	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Males	Waiters	„ „	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Males	Boots	„ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Males	Ostlers	„ „	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Males	Cooks	„ „	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females	Barmaids	„ „	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Females	Waitresses	„ „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Females	Housemaids	per annum „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Cooks	„ „	50*l.* to 100*l.*

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Description of Labour.			Rate.
3.—Farm Servants.			
Males	Ploughmen	per week, and found	20*s.* to 25*s.*
	Farm labourers	„ „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Milkmen for dairies	„ „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Cheesemakers	„ „	25*s.* to 40*s.*
	Reapers	per acre, „	10*s.* to 15*s.*
	Mowers	„ „	4*s.* to 6*s.*
	Threshers	per bushel, „	5*d.* to 7*d.*
	Cooks	per annum, „	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females	Dairy milkmaids	„ with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*
	Cooks	„ „	30*l.* to 35*l.*
	General servants	„ „	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Married couples (generally useful)		„ „	60*l.* to 80*l.*
Hop-pickers		per bushel	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*
Maize-pickers		per bag	6*d.*
4.—Station Servants.			
Males	Boundary riders	per annum with rations	40*l.* to 60*l.*
	Shepherds	„ „	36*l.* to 52*l.*
	Stockmen	„ „	50*l.* to 75*l.*
	Hutkeepers	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
	Cooks	„ „	60*l.* to 70*l.*
	Labourers	per week, „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Drovers	„ „	25*s.* to 40*s.*
	Sheepwashers	„ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
	Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	15*s.* to 16*s.*
Females	Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 50*l.*
	General servants	„ „	30*l.* to 45*l.*
Married couples		„ with rations	70*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—Workers in Books, &c.			
Printers—Compositors		per 1,000, without board and lodging	1*s.* 2*d.*
„ Machinists		per week, „	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Lithographers		„ „	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Binders		„ „	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Paper rulers		„ „	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)		„ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
6.—In Watches, Jewellery, and Precious Metals.			
Watchmakers		per week, without board and lodging	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Manufacturing jewellers		„ „	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Enamellers		„ „	3*l.* to 4*l.*

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Description of Labour.		Rate.
7.—In Metals other than Gold and Silver.		
Blacksmiths	per day, without board and lodging	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Die Sinkers	per week, "	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Engravers	" "	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*
Farriers—Firemen	" "	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
" Floormen	" "	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Hammermen	per day, "	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	" "	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Turners	" "	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	" "	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Riveters	" "	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Lamp makers	per week, "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pattern makers	per day, "	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Moulders	" "	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	" "	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week, "	2*l.* 8*s.* to 2*l.* 14*s.*
Japanners	" "	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	" "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Galvanizers	" "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	" "	3*l.*
8.—In Carriages and Harness.		
Smiths	per week, without board and lodging	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Bodymakers	" "	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Wheelers	" "	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Painters	per day, "	6*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*
Trimmers	per week, "	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vycemen	" "	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Collar-makers	" "	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Harness-makers	" "	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Saddler-makers	" "	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Saddle-tree makers	" "	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
Whip-makers	" "	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
9.—Ships and Boats.		
Sailors—Sailing vessels	per month, and found	3*l.* 10*l.* to 5*l.*
" Steamships	" "	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day, without board and lodging	13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	per hour, "	1*s.* 3*d.*
10.—In Houses and Buildings.		
Masons	per day, without board and lodging	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	" "	10*s.*
Bricklayers	" "	10*s.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
Slaters	per day, without board and lodging		10*s.* to 12*s.*
Carpenters	„	„	10*s.*
Labourers	„	„	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Painters and glaziers	„	„	7*s.* to 9*s.*
11.—In Furniture &c.			
Cabinetmakers	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Carvers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Turners	per day,	„	8*s.* to 10*s.*
Upholsterers	per week,	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 3*s.*
Polishers	„	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Coopers	per day,	„	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—Workers in Dress.			
Tailors	per hour, without board and lodging		10*d.* to 1*s.*
„	per week	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
„ in factories	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Mantlemakers	„	„	13*s.* to 30*s.*
Milliners, first class	„	„	3*l.* to 4*l.*
„ second class	„	„	15*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Corsetmakers	„	„	15*s.* to 35*s.*
Dressmakers	„	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen	„	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Bootmakers	riveting children's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		5*d.*
„	machine sewing children's and boys' boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		8*d.* to 9*d.*
„	riveting boys' boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		9*d.*
„	riveting women's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
„	machine sewing women's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* 1*d.*
„	riveting men's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*
„	machine sewing men's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* 5*d.*
„	making wellingtons to order, without board and lodging.		10*s.*
„	making elastics to order, without board and lodging.		6*s.* to 8*s.*
„ machinists	per week, without board and lodging		15*s.* to 25*s.*
Hatters—Gossamer trade—			
„ Bodymakers—silk hats	per dozen	„	10*s.* to 22*s.*
„ Finishers	„	„	12*s.* to 24*s.*
„ Shapers	„	„	4*s.* to 12*s.*
„ Crown sewers	„	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*
„ Trimmers	„	„	6*s.* to 9*s.*
„ Felt hat trade—			
„ Bodymakers	per week, without board and lodging		3*l.* 5*s.*
„ Blockers	„	„	3*l.*
„ Finishers	„	„	3*l.*
„ Shapers	„	„	3*l.*
„ Binders (females)	„	„	24*s.*
„ Trimmers	„	„	20*s.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
Clothing Factories—			
Tailoresses	per week, without board and lodging		20*s.* to 30*s.*
Pressers	„	„	1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
Shirtmakers	„	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists	„	„	15*s.* to 30*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* 10*s.*
13.—IN FOOD.			
Bakers—Foremen	per week, without board and lodging		3*l.*
„ Second hands	„	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Butchers—Shopmen	„	„	30*s.* to 3*l.*
„ Slaughtermen	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ Boys	„	with board	15*s.* to 30*s.*
„ Small-goods men	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Maltsters	per week		2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
14.—IN ANIMAL MATTERS.			
Brushmakers	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*
Curriers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners	„	„	38*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen	„	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen	„	„	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers	„	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Portmanteau—trunkmakers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
15.—IN VEGETABLE MATTERS.			
Basket-makers	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* to 3*l.*
Broom-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Cigar-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Cigarette-makers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tobacco-workers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Cork-cutters	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
16.—IN STONE, CLAY, &c.			
Brickmakers	per 1,000, without board and lodging		14*s.* to 15*s.*
Brickmakers' labourers	per day	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*
Glassblowers	per week	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Navvies	per day,	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Potters	per hour,	„	10½*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Quarrymen	per day,	„	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Labourers	„	„	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard,	„	2*s.* to 4*s.*
Asphalters	per day,	„	8*s.* to 9*s.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
17.—In Mines.			
General managers	per week,	without board and lodging	2*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.*
Legal „	„	„	10*s.* to 7*l.*
Mining „	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.*
Engineers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
Engine-drivers	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pitmen	„	„	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Blacksmiths	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Carpenters	„	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 3*l.* 6*s.*
Foremen of shift	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
Miners	„	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.*
Surfacemen (labourers)	„	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys	„	„	15*s.* to 1*l.* 15*s.*
Chinese	„	„	1*l.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*

146. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows for 1881, 1886, and 1891. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c. is naturally somewhat higher, and that of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne :— Prices.

Prices in Melbourne, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

Articles.		1881.	1886.	1891.
Agricultural Produce.				
Wheat	per bushel	4*s.* 1*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 10*d.* to 5*s.* 5*d.*	3*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*
Barley—				
Malting	„	2*s.* 2*d.* to 4*s.* 4*d.*	2*s.* 7*d.* to 4*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 3*d.*
Cape	„			2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*
Oats	„	2*s.* to 3*s.* 7*d.*	2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*
Maize	„	3*s.* 9*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*	4*s.* 3*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.*	3*s.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*
Bran	„	8½*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Hay	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Flour, first quality	„	9*l.* to 11*l.* 15*s.*	8*l.* to 11*l.* 15*s.*	8*l.* to 10*l.* 10*s.*
Bread	per 4 lb. loaf	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*	4½*d.* to 6*d.*
Grazing Produce.				
Horses—				
Draught	each	15*l.* to 46*l.*	23*l.* to 49*l.*	12*l.* to 40*l.*
Saddle and harness	„	8*l.* to 65*l.*	10*l.* to 25*l.*	8*l.* to 20*l.*
Cattle—				
Fat	„	3*l.* 10*s.* to 14*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*	5*l.* to 19*l.*	5*l.* to 14*l.*
Milch cows	„	4*l.* 15*s.* to 10*l.*	6*l.* to 15*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 15*l.*
Sheep, fat	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 21*s.*	5*s.* 6*d.* to 22*s.*	6*s.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*
Lambs, fat	„	3*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*

Articles.		1881.	1886.	1891.
GRAZING PRODUCE—*cont.*				
Butchers' meat—				
Beef, retail	per lb.	1½*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 10*d.*	3*d.* to 9*d.*
Mutton „	„	1½*d.* to 4*d.*	1½*d.* to 5*d.*	2*d.* to 6*d.*
Veal „	„	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*
Pork „	„	6*d.* to 8*d.*	6*d.* to 9*d.*	7*d.* to 10*d.*
Lamb „	per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
DAIRY PRODUCE.				
Butter, retail	per lb.	6*d.* to 2*s.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.*
Cheese „	„	5*d.* to 1*s.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	7*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Milk	per quart	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 5*d.*
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.				
Geese	per couple	6*s.* to 10*s.*	7*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Ducks	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	5*s.* to 8*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*
Fowls	„	4*s.* to 7*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*
Rabbits	„	6*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Pigeons	„	2*s.* to 3*s.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Turkeys	each	4*s.* to 15*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* to 15*s.*
Sucking pigs	„	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	5*s.* to 15*s.*
Bacon	per lb.	6*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Ham	„	8*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	10*d.* to 2*s.* 9*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.				
Potatoes—				
Wholesale	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Retail	per cwt.	3*s.* to 8*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Onions, dried	„	2*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches	4*d.* to 8*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Turnips	„	2*d.* to 1*s.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Radishes	„	3*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Cabbages	per doz.	3*d.* to 5*s.*	6*d.* to 4*s.*	2*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Cauliflowers	„	4*d.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* to 5*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Green peas	per lb.	1*d.* to 4*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*	1½*d.* to 5*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea (duty paid)	per lb.	7*d.* to 2*s.* 5½*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.*	5½*d.* to 2*s.*
Coffee „	„	7½*d.* to 11½*d.*	5½*d.* to 8*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.*
Sugar „	per ton	30*l.* 10*s.* to 38*l.*	18*l.* 10*s.* to 29*l.*	13*l.* 5*s.* to 27*l.* 5*s.*
Rice „	„	13*l.* 10*s.* to 29*l.*	16*l.* to 26*l.*	14*l.* to 22*l.*

Articles.		1881.	1886.	1891.
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—*cont.*				
Tobacco (in bond) :—				
Imported mftd.	per lb.	8½*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* to 3*s.* 9*d.*	11*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*
Colonial „	„			2*s.* 3*d.* to 4*s.*
Soap, colonial	per ton	17*l.* to 29*l.*	12*l.* to 28*l.*	11*l.* to 28*l.*
Candles, sperm	per lb.	7*d.* to 10½*d.*	6*d.* to 9¼*d.*	5*d.* to 8¼*d.*
Salt	per ton	3*l.* 5*s.* to 6*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 17*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*
Coals	„	22*s.* to 40*s.*	27*s.* to 38*s.*	20*s.* to 26*s.*
Firewood	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*	9*s.* 3*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*
WINES, SPIRITS, &c.				
Ale (duty paid)	per hhd.	7*l.* to 9*l.*	5*l.* 10*s.* to 8*l.*	5*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.*
„ „	qts. per doz.	8*s.* to 13*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* 3*d.* to 11*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*
Stout „	per hhd.	7*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*	7*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*	5*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*
„ „	qts. per doz.	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 3*d.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy, in bulk (in bond)	per gall.	6*s.* to 15*s.*	5*s.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*
Rum „ „	„	2*s.* 2*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*
Whisky „ „	„	3*s.* 10*d.* to 15*s.*	3*s.* 3*d.* to 16*s.*	2*s.* 3*d.* to 17*s.*
Port wine (in bond)	per pipe	21*l.* to 120*l.*	21*l.* to 120*l.*	23*l.* to 120*l.*
Sherry (in bond)	per butt	20*l.* to 125*l.*	21*l.* to 135*l.*	25*l.* to 140*l.*
Claret, &c. (in bond)	per doz.	13*s.* 6*d.* to 100*s.*	15*s.* to 87*s.* 6*d.*	16*s.* to 85*s.*
Champagne (in bond)	„	25*s.* to 91*s.*	35*s.* to 95*s.*	35*s.* to 105*s.*

147. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned, in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1891–92." Victorian Year Book.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

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No. 104.

VICTORIA.

DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS FOR 1892.

(For Digest for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 69.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
67	Newfoundland	1891
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	"
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	"
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	"
76	Bahamas	"
77	Leeward Islands	"
78	Trinidad and Tobago	"
79	Malta	"
80	Gambia	"
81	Straits Settlements	"
82	Grenada	"
83	Barbados	"
84	St. Vincent	"
85	Hong Kong	"
86	St. Lucia	"
87	Falkland Islands	"
88	Gold Coast	"
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	"
92	Mauritius	"
93	Labuan	"
94	British Honduras	"
95	Lagos	"
96	Sierra Leone	"
97	Fiji	"
98	Rodrigues	"
99	St. Helena	"
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	"
102	Jamaica	"
103	Newfoundland	1892

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 104.

VICTORIA.

(For Digest for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 69.)

The EARL OF HOPETOUN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Melbourne,
January 6, 1894.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of Victoria for the year 1892.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOPETOUN.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1892, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

1. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1892 was as follows:— Population, 1892.

Estimated Population, 31st December 1892.

Males - - - -	607,801
Females - - -	559,572
Total - -	1,167,373

2. This estimate shows an increase during the year of 9,695, viz., 1,766 males and 7,929 females. The figures have been derived from the numbers returned at the census, brought on to the end of 1892 by means of the numbers expressing the excess of births over deaths and of arrivals over departures which took place since the census day. The official record of births, deaths, and arrivals have been taken as they stand, but the record of departures being known to be defective, an allowance has been made for those unrecorded, which are estimated to have amounted to 9,254, viz., 7,188 males and 2,066 females since the census. These numbers have accordingly been deducted from the totals. Mode of forming population estimate.

VICTORIA. 1892.

Had no such deductions been made, the apparent population at the end of 1892 would have been 1,176,627 viz., 614,989 males and 561,638 females.

Municipal estimate of population.

3. A partial check upon the periodical estimates of population is afforded by means of returns obtained from the municipal authorities, who at the time of making their valuations ought to ascertain the number of persons living upon each property rated. This is not always done correctly, and, besides, in some municipalities the properties are not visited each year for the purpose of rating, in which case the numbers are not counted, but estimates, more or less wide of the truth, are made by the municipal authorities. The aggregate population obtained by means of the municipal returns is thus not so accurate as it might be were due care exercised in every municipality. The sum of the returns for 1892 was 1,144,687, which, with an allowance to bring it on to the end of the year, and for districts not situated within the limits of any municipality, would give a total of 1,150,941, or 25,686 less than the apparent population, or 16,432 less than the reduced estimate adopted. If the municipal estimate is correct, the difference between it and the departmental estimate must have been due to a large overland emigration having taken place, of which there is at present no machinery for taking account.

Mean population. 1892.

4. The mean population of the year 1892 may be estimated as follows:—

Estimated Mean Population, 1892.

Males - - - -	606,990
Females - - - -	555,720
Total - - -	1,162,710

Apparent increase of population in 1892.

5. According to the records of births and deaths, and of immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1892 was 15,717, viz., 6,438 males and 9,279 females. This resulted from an increase of 21,980, consisting of 10,307 males and 11,673 females, by excess of births over deaths; less a decrease of 6,263, consisting of 3,869 males and 2,394 females, by excess of departures over arrivals.

Increase of population, 1888 to 1892.

6. The figures showing the apparent increase of population are useful for comparing the results of one year with those of another but are not to be relied upon for individual years, they being usually higher than the actual numbers, as was made abundantly manifest by the results of the last census. The reason of this is that the number of persons who leave the colony by sea without their departure being recorded is greater than that of the infants whose births are not registered. This causes a constant loss in the account of population, unrecognised at the time, which can only

be counterbalanced by a surplus of arrivals over departures overland, a circumstance which of late years has occurred but rarely. The figures for the last five years are subjoined :—

Apparent Increase of Population.

1888	60,019
1889	33,131
1890	35,523
1891	29,150
1892	15,717

Small increase, 1891 and 1892.

7. A great diminution in the apparent increase of population is shown by the figures of the last two years, the increase in 1892 being smaller than in any year since 1875, when it was only 14,835. The exceptionally high increase in 1888 was mainly due to the opening of the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition in that year, to the large amount of British capital sent to Victoria for investment, which led to extensive building operations being undertaken, chiefly in Melbourne, and to the excitement which prevailed in consequence of the large fortunes which were apparently being made by the purchase and sale of land.

Increase by births, 1888 to 1892.

8. As practically all the deaths are registered, but some of the births escape registration, the apparent increase by the surplus of the latter over the former is always somewhat below the truth. As, however, it is probable that the proportion of unregistered births is tolerably constant from year to year and is not very large in any year, the figures are useful. The apparent excess of births over deaths in 1892 was greater by 2,106 than that in 1891, and was also greater than in any previous year. The following are the numbers in the last five years :—

Apparent Increase by Excess of Births over Deaths.

1888	18,216
1889	16,967
1890	19,566
1891	19,874
1892	21,980

Increase by immigration.

9. The increase by excess of recorded arrivals over recorded departures reached its maximum in the Exhibition year (1888), which was also a period of great apparent prosperity. Since then there has been a continuous falling off, until in 1892 there was a loss by excess of known departures over known arrivals

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amounting to 6,263. The figures for the five years 1888 to 1892 are as follows:—

Apparent Increase by Excess of Arrivals over Departures.

1888 - - - - - -	- 41,803
1889 - - - -	- 16,164
1890 - - - - - -	- 15,957
1891 - - - -	- 9,276
1892 - - - - - -	—6,263*

Populations of Australasian Colonies, 1892.

10. The following table shows the estimated population of each Australasian Colony at the end of 1892—males and females being distinguished; also the increase of the total population and the total mean population of each colony during that year:—

Populations of Australasian Colonies at end of 1892.

Colony.	Estimated Population† on the 31st December.			Both Sexes.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase in 1892.	Mean Population, 1892.
Victoria -	607,801	559,572	1,167,373	9,695	1,162,710
New South Wales -	646,378	550,672	1,197,050	31,750	1,181,175
Queensland - -	237,965	183,332	421,297	10,967	415,813
South Australia‡ -	176,101	160,601	336,702	10,936	331,234
Western Australia -	36,095	22,579	58,674	5,389	55,980
Total - -	1,704,340	1,476,756	3,181,096	68,737	3,146,912
Tasmania - -	82,009	71,135	153,144	525	152,882
New Zealand § -	345,146	305,287	650,433	16,375	642,246
Grand total -	2,131,495	1,853,178	3,984,673	85,637	3,942,040

* The minus sign (—) indicates that the departures exceeded the arrivals by the number against which it is placed.

† Aborigines are included in the case of Victoria and New South Wales, but it is understood they are omitted in that of the other colonies. In 1891, 565 aborigines were enumerated in Victoria and 8,280 in New South Wales.

‡ The population of South Australia, as here given, is inclusive of that contained in the Northern Territory, of which the small portion inhabited contained, when the census of 1891 was taken, 5,219 persons, of whom 3,635 were Chinese.

§ The population of New Zealand is exclusive of Maoris, who numbered 41,993, viz., 22,861 males and 19,132 females in 1891.

11. The subjoined figures show the estimated percentage of increase of the population of each colony during the year 1892, the colonies being arranged in order according to the rate of increase in each :—

Order of colonies in respect to increase of population.

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportionate Increase of Population, 1892.

—	Per cent.	—	Per cent.
1. Western Australia -	10·11	5. New Zealand - -	2.58
2. South Australia - -	3·36	6. Victoria - -	·84
3. New South Wales -	2.72	7. Tasmania - - -	·34
4. Queensland - - -	2·67		

12. If the totals in the last table be compared with similar totals for the previous year, it will be ascertained that in 1892 the population of Continental Australia increased by 2·21 per cent., and the population of Continental and Insular Australia combined increased by 2·20 per cent.

Increase in Australia and Australasia, 1892.

13. Victoria is by far the most densely populated colony of the group, and is also the colony in which the nearest approach to equality prevails in the numbers of the sexes. The following is the order in which the colonies stand in respect to these two matters :—

Order of colonies in respect to population and sex.

Order of Colonies in reference to Density of Population, 1892.

—	Persons to the Square Mile.	—	Persons to the Square Mile.
1. Victoria - - -	13·283	5. Queensland - -	·630
2. New Zealand - - -	6·226	6. South Australia - -	·373
3. Tasmania - -	5·806	7. Western Australia -	·060
4. New South Wales - -	3·872		

Order of Colonies in reference to Equality of Sexes, 1892.

—	Females to 100 Males.	—	Females to 100 Males.
1. Victoria - - -	92·07	5. New South Wales -	85·19
2. South Australia - -	91·20	6. Queensland - - -	77·04
3. New Zealand - -	88·45	7. Western Australia -	62·55
4. Tasmania - -	86·74		

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Chinese in Victoria, 1891.

14. The Chinese living in Victoria at the date of the census of 1891 numbered 9,377, of whom only 605 were females. All were not pure Mongolians, 417, or nearly 5 per cent. of the males, and as many as 471, or 78 per cent. of the females, being half-castes.

Chinese in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

15. The following is a statement of the number of Chinese according to the census returns of each of the Australasian Colonies :—

Chinese in the Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria* - - - -	8,772	605	9,377
New South Wales† - - - -	13,555	601	14,156
Queensland‡ - - - -	8,527	47	8,574
South Australia§ - - - - -	3,926	71	3,997
Western Australia - - -	912	5	917
Total - - - - -	35,692	1,329	37,021
Tasmania‖ - - - -	993	63	1,056
New Zealand - - - -	4,426	18	4,444
Grand Total - - -	41,111	1,410	42,521

All of Chinese race not born in China.

16. In all the colonies some of the persons born in China were not of the Chinese race, whilst, on the other hand, some members of the Chinese race were born elsewhere than in China. It is believed that the numbers in the table are exclusive of the former but inclusive of the latter in the case of all the colonies except South Australia, in which colony all those set down in the census schedules as born in China, but no others, have been taken to be Chinese.

Aborigines in Victoria, 1891.

17. At the census of 1891 only 565 Aborigines, viz., 240 males and 325 females, were enumerated in Victoria. It is tolerably certain, however, that there are more in the colony than are shown by the figures. In consequence of the nomadic habits of this people, some have probably been missed by the sub-enumerators; and it is, moreover, possible that the latter sometimes fail to comply with the instruction to note the fact of the person being an Aboriginal by marking the letter "A" after the birthplace entry on the census schedule, and in consequence it might possibly not

* Including 888 half castes, viz., 417 males and 471 females.

† Including 867 half castes, viz.. 422 males and 445 females.

‡ Including 29 male and 20 female children born in Queensland of Chinese parents; also one Chinaman born in New South Wales.

§ These were the numbers born in China; persons of European extraction there born, and Chinese borne in other countries were not kept separate in the returns.

‖ Including 117 half-castes, viz., 62 males and 55 females.

be recognised that he was one. The Central Board for the Protection of the Aborigines state that they have information of the existence of 731 Aborigines in the colony. Of the Aborigines enumerated only 317, viz., 192 males and 125 females, were pure blacks. The remainder, numbering 248, viz., 133 males and 115 females, had a cross of European blood in their veins.

Aborigines in Australasian colonies, 1891.

18. The following is a statement of the number of Aborigines enumerated or believed to exist in each Autralasian colony in 1891 :—

Aborigines in the Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria* - - -	325	240	565
New South Wales† - -	4,559	3,721	8,280
Queensland (1881)‡ - -	10,719	9,866	20,585
South Australia§ - -	14,510	9,279	23,789
Western Autralia‖ - -	3,516	2,729	6,245
Total - - -	33,629	25,835	59,464
Tasmania¶- - - -	73	66	139
New Zealand** - -	22,861	19,132	41,993
Grand Total - -	56,563	45,033	101,596

Enumeration of Aborigines incomplete.

19. In most, if not all, the Australasian colonies the enumeration of the Aborigines was incomplete. It has been already stated that, in Victoria, whilst only 565 (including half-castes) were enumerated, 731 are believed to be in existence. In Queensland no attempt was made to enumerate or estimate the number of Aborigines, therefore the number returned in 1881, which is believed to understate the truth, has been repeated. In South Australia the Aborigines were not regularly enumerated, the figures given being derived from estimates made by the census collectors. In Western Australia only civilised Aborigines were enumerated.

* Including 248 half-castes, viz., 133 males and 115 females.

† Including 3,183 half-castes, viz., 1,663 males and 1,520 females.

‡ No provision was made in 1891 to enumerate, or form an estimate of the numbers of, Aborigines in Queensland. The numbers for 1881—partly counted and partly estimated—have therefore been repeated.

§ Partly estimated.

‖ Civilised aborigines only; 575 half-castes, viz., 293 males and 282 females, are included.

¶ These are half-castes. No Aborigines of unmixed race remain on the island of Tasmania.

** Including 40 Aborignal inhabitants of the Chatham Islands (Morioris), viz., 26 males and 14 females.

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In the numbers given for that colony, 575, viz., 293 males and 282 females, are half-castes. In Tasmania there are no longer any Aborigines of unmixed race, the last male having died in 1869, and the last female in 1876. There are, however, a few half-castes. With the Maoris of New Zealand, 40 Morioris, viz., 26 males and 14 females, are included. These are the last surviving Aboriginal inhabitants of the Chatham Islands, which are a group lying about 360 miles to the east of New Zealand, in latitude 43° 50′ S., longitude 177° E., and form a dependency of that colony.

Metropolitan populations, 1891 and 1892.

20. In the following table is shown the area embraced in the metropolis (including suburbs) of each of the Australasian colonies, with the population thereof as enumerated at the last census and estimated at the end of 1892; also the increase of the population of each capital city since the census, the mean population of each during the year, and the density of the population of each at its close:—

Population of Australasian Capital Cities, 1892.

Name of City.	Area in Acres.	Population.		Increase since Census ($1\frac{3}{4}$ year).	Mean Population, 1892.	Persons to the Acre (31st Dec 1892).
		Enumerated (5th April 1891).	Estimated (31st Dec. 1892).			
Melbourne -	162,660	490,896	474,810	16,086*	481,550	2·92
Sydney -	86,400	387,434	411,710	24,276	405,820	4·77
Brisbane -	50,240	93,657	100,200†	6,543	98,900	1·99
Adelaide -	167,680	133,252	136,766	3,514	134,670	·82
Perth -	4,830	8,447	11,117	2,670	10,580	2·30
Hobart	47,560	33,450	34,926	1,476	34,450	·73
Wellington -	9,032	33,224	37,013	3,789	35,348	4·10

Increase of population since census.

21. According to the estimates made an increase will be observed in the population of all the capitals except Melbourne, in which there was a falling off of 16,086 as already stated. The increase in Sydney was by far the largest, exceeding by a third that in Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart, and Wellington combined.

Density of population in capital cities.

22. It will, moreover, be noticed that the inhabitants of Greater Sydney dwell in greater contiguity than those of any of the other metropolitan cities, and in both that city and Wellington the people are nearer each other than they are in Greater Melbourne, whilst in Adelaide and Hobart there is less than one person to the acre. It, may, however, be remarked that in the district subject to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, which is smaller than Greater Melbourne and slightly smaller than Greater Sydney, the inhabitants are nearer together than in

*Decrease. †Estimated.

either, the population at the census being 476,849, spread over an area of 83,860 acres, or an average of 5·69 persons to the acre.

Population of chief extra-metropolitan towns.

23. Next to the municipalities embraced under the head of Greater Melbourne, the most important towns in Victoria are—Ballarat, comprising three municipalities; Bendigo, two; Geelong three; Warrnambool, one; Castlemaine, two; and Stawell, one. The enumerated populations of these, with their immediate suburbs, according to the results of the census of 1891, and an estimate brought down to about September, 1892, also the increase or decrease in each since the census, were as follow:—

Population of Six Extra-Metropolitan Towns, 1891 *and* 1892.

Name of Town.	Population.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1891.	1892.		
Ballarat	46,158	45,011	—	1,147
Bendigo	38,348	39,104	756	—
Geelong	24,283	24,418	135	—
Castlemaine	6,804	6,772	—	32
Warrnambool	6,582	6,300	—	282
Stawell	5,183	5,200	17	—

Birthplaces, 1892.

24. The following table has been constructed upon the assumption that the respective nationalities existed in 1892 in the same proportions to the total population of that year as they did when the census was taken to the total population then enumerated:—

BIRTH-PLACES OF THE PEOPLE, 1892 (ESTIMATED).

Birth-places.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria	362,029	369,973	732,002
Other Australasian Colonies	40,489	41,287	81,776
England and Wales	98,226	68,728	166,954
Scotland	28,989	22,952	51,941
Ireland	43,668	43,837	87,505
Other British possessions	4,183	2,717	6,900
Germany	7,941	3,087	11,028
The United States	2,046	928	2,974
China	8,502	141	8,643
Other foreign countries	10,917	2,070	12,987
Total	606,990	555,720	1,162,710
ALLEGIANCE.			
British subjects (by birth)	577,575	549,440	1,127,015
Foreign subjects (by birth)	29,415	6,280	35,695

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Birthplaces of residents in each Australasian colony.

25. The following table contains a statement of the birthplace of the people of each Australasian colony, according to the returns of the census of 1891; also the number of males and females of each birthplace:—

Birthplace of the People living in each Australasian Colony, 1891.

(Including Chinese and Aborigines.)

Colony.	Number of person born in—						
	The Colony.	Other Australasian Colonies.*	United Kingdom.	Other British Possessions.	Germany.	The United States.	Residue.
MALES.							
Victoria	354,726	39,672	167,435	3,126	7,781	2,005	23,669
New South Wales	368,054	46,462	158,324	3,434	6,976	2,509	26,803
Queensland†	99,833	17,658	81,596	1,538	8,700	325	24,848‡
South Australia	108,276	5,760	38,604	1,032	5,076	271	7,782
Western Australia	17,261	2,195	9,821	587	259	132	2,775
Total	948,150	111,747	455,780	9,717	28,792	5,242	85,877
Tasmania	54,323	3,944	15,810	372	589	165	2,357
New Zealand	206,462	7,677	123,375	2,209	3,045	474	12,496
Total males	1,208,935	123,368	494,965	12,298	32,426	5,881	100,730
FEMALES.							
Victoria	358,859	40,047	131,446	1,726	2,994	900	6,019
New South Wales	365,241	38,692	107,777	1,200	2,591	870	3,301
Queensland†	97,723	10,678	61,027	421	6,210	102	3,644
South Australia	109,454	5,318	33,460	473	3,477	115	1,333
Western Australia	16,160	1,133	4,701	170	31	22	205
Total	947,437	95,868	338,411	3,990	15,303	2,009	14,502
Tasmania	53,578	3,384	11,165	310	329	56	285
New Zealand	202,247	8,266	95,459	1,494	1,618	193	3,636
Total females	1,203,262	107,518	445,035	5,794	17,250	2,258	18,423
Both sexes	2,412,197	230,886	940,000	18,092	49,676	8,139	119,153

* Including Fiji and New Guinea.

† As no account was taken in 1891 of the Aborigines in Queensland, the numbers partly enumerated and partly estimated in 1881 have been added to the census figures.

‡ Including Polynesians, viz., 8,498 males and 745 females; and Malays, viz., 1,092 males and 79 females.

Natives of Australasia.

26. The table shows the natives of the Australasian Colonies resident therein to have numbered 2,643,083, of whom 2,103,202 were born on the Australian continent. The former number furnishes a proportion of 68 per cent. and the latter one of 69 per cent. to the population. In 1881 the proportions were respectively 62 and 63 per cent.

Victorians in each Australasian colony.

27. From the census returns of the different colonies it is ascertained that Victorian natives living in Australasian Colonies other than the colony of their birth numbered 69,021, viz., 38,310 males and 30,711 females. The numbers found to be living in each colony of the group are set down in the following table:—

Victorians living in each Australasian Colony, 1891.

Colony in which living.	Numbers born in Victoria.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - - -	354,726	358,859	713,585
New South Wales - - -	22,792	17,976	40,768
Queensland - - -	4,907	2,555	7,462
South Australia - - -	3,412	3,197	6,609
Western Australia - -	729	307	1,036
Total - - -	386,566	382,894	769,460
Tasmania - - -	2,301	1,904	4,205
New Zealand - - -	4,169	4,772	8,941
Grand Total - -	393,036	389,570	782,606

Victorian natives.

28. The figures afford evidence of the existence of 782,606 Victorians by birth, viz., 393,036 males and 389,570 females. There are doubtless also some living in the United Kingdom and other countries outside of Australasia, but of these there are no means of estimating the numbers. The increase of known natives of Victoria since 1881 has been 243,501, viz., 123,119 males and 120,382 females.

Victorians in other colonies, and other colonists in Victoria.

29. Victoria, according to the following table, presents greater attractions to natives of other colonies of the group than those colonies, taken as a whole, present to Victorians, inasmuch as, whilst 77,045 natives of extra-Victorian colonies were found to be

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living in Victoria, only 69,018 natives of Victoria were found to be living in other colonies:—

Natives of other Australasian Colonies living in Victoria, and Victorians living in other Australian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Natives of—		Excess of—	
	The other Colonies named living in Victoria.	Victoria living in each of the other Colonies named.	Natives of other Colonies in Victoria over Victorians in those Colonies.	Victorians in other Colonies over natives of those Colonies in Victoria.
New South Wales - -	19,792	40,765	—	20,973
Queensland - -	2,757	7,462	—	4,705
South Australia - -	25,316	6,609	18,707	—
Western Australia -	756	1,036	—	280
Tasmania - -	16,398	4,205	12,193	—
New Zealand - -	12,026	8,941	3,085	—
Total - -	77,045	69,018	8,027*	—

Colonies receiving natives from, or sending natives to, Victoria.

30. It will be observed that Victoria sends more of her natives to New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia than she receives of their natives, but the reverse is the case as regards South Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand. The natives received from the last three over and above those parted with to the first three colonies is in favour of Victoria to the extent of 8,027 persons, as shown in the table.

Religions, 1892.

31. The next table contains a statement of the estimated number of persons of different religions in Victoria about the middle of 1892, the proportions which those of each religion bear to the total population being identical with those obtaining at the last census:—

Religions of the People, 1892 (*estimated*).

Religious Denominations.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Church of England - - -	224,875	203,943	428,818
Presbyterians - - -	88,768	82,929	171,697
Methodists - - -	80,160	82,333	162,493
Independents - - -	11,438	11,293	22,731
Baptists - - - - - -	13,815	14,857	28,672

* Net figures.

Religious Denominations.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Other Protestants - -	25,202	20,647	45,849
Roman Catholics - - -	128,989	126,580	255,569
Jews - - - -	3,623	3,015	6,638
Buddhists, Confucians, &c. -	6,779	127	6,906
Others (including no religion, &c., object to state, &c.) -	23,341	9,996	33,337
Total - - - - -	606,990	555,720	1,162,710

32. The following table shows the principal religious denominations in each Australasian Colony, also the number of males and females adhering to each denomination, according to the returns of the census of 1891 :— Religions in Australasian Colonies.

Religions of the People in each Australasian Colony, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

Colony.	Number of Persons of Each Denomination.						
	Church of England	Presbyterians.	Methodists.	Other Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews.	Residue.
MALES.							
Victoria - - -	219,573	86,665	78,297	49,246	126,017	3,540	34,751
New South Wales -	272,909	59,438	56,358	34,364	149,390	3,038	33,406
Queensland - -	79,814	25,473	16,073	28,077	48,688	483	25,171
South Australia -	46,718	9,491	37,757	33,840	23,626	436	14,933
Western Australia -	14,6.9	1,286	2,443	1,323	7,127	82	2,613
Total - -	632,754	182,353	190,928	146,850	354,848	7,579	110,874
Tasmania - -	40,401	4,957	8,657	5,458	13,210	55	4,749
New Zealand - -	134,263	74,766	31,601	24,524	44,982	774	21,967
Total Males -	807,418	262,076	231,186	176,832	413,040	8,408	137,590
FEMALES.							
Victoria - - -	197,378	80,246	79,711	45,284	122,568	2,919	13,645
New South Wales -	234,859	49,945	53,752	29,108	137,527	2,446	8,314
Queensland - -	62,741	20,166	14,795	24,272	44,077	326	3,482
South Australia -	42,553	8,715	38,857	33,703	23,553	404	5,955
Western Australia -	10,242	710	2,148	946	5,347	47	273
Total - -	547,773	159,782	189,263	133,283	333,072	6,142	31,649
Tasmania - -	35,909	4,789	8,482	5,482	12,596	29	2,084
New Zealand	119,068	66,711	31,814	23,903	42,290	689	9,366
Total Females -	702,450	231,282	229,559	162,668	387,928	6,860	43,039
Both Sexes	1,509,868	493,358	460,745	339,500	800,968	15,268	180,629

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Protestants and Roman Catholics in Australasian Colonies.

33. Combining the Protestant denominations so as to obtain the total number of Protestants in each colony, and collating them with the Roman Catholics, the proportions given in the following table are obtained:—

Protestants and Roman Catholics in each Australasian Colony, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

Colony.	Numbers.			Proportions per cent.	
	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.
Victoria - -	836,400	248,585	1,084,985	77·09	22·91
New South Wales -	789,833	286,917	1,076,750	73·35	26·65
Queensland - -	271,491	92,765	364,256	74·54	25·46
South Australia -	251,524	47,179	298,703	84·25	15·75
Western Australia -	33,738	12,474	46,212	73·01	26·99
Total - -	2,182,986	687,920	2,870,906	76·04	23·96
Tasmania - -	113,835	25,776	139,611	81·54	18·46
New Zealand - -	506,650	87,272	593,922	85·31	14·69
Grand Total -	2,803,471	800,968	3,604,439	77·78	22·22

Colonies in which Roman Catholics were most common.

34. The proportions in the tables are those of the Protestants and Roman Catholics to the sum of the two bodies combined; and it should be pointed out that the proportions would be somewhat lower if calculated to the whole population of specified beliefs, which, in addition to the two bodies named, contained Jews, Buddhists, &c., and other non-Christian sects, as well as persons of No Denomination, No Religion, &c. In proportion to the total of the two combined bodies, Protestants were most numerous in combined New Zealand, South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria in the order named, those being the only colonies in which they exceeded 75 per cent of the whole; whilst Roman Catholics were most numerous in Western Australia, next in New South Wales, and next in Queensland, those being the only colonies in which they exceeded 25 per cent. of the whole.

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Ages, 1892.

35. The following table contains an estimate of the ages of the people of Victoria about the middle of 1892, grouped in quinquennial periods :—

Ages of the People, 1892 (*estimated*).

Ages.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	76,307	75,370	151,677
5 to 10 „	66,398	65,615	132,013
10 to 15 „	59,888	59,369	119,257
15 to 20 „	58,105	59,352	117,457
20 to 25 „	64,346	63,238	127,584
25 to 30 „	64,008	56,631	120,639
30 to 35 „	48,562	40,865	89,427
35 to 40 „	32,299	27,200	59,499
40 to 45 „	24,403	21,987	46,390
45 to 50 „	22,452	20,269	42,721
50 to 55 „	23,148	19,788	42,936
55 to 60 „	22,596	16,634	39,230
60 to 65 „	20,513	13,248	33,761
65 to 70 „	11,305	7,364	18,669
70 to 75 „	7,346	4,925	12,271
75 to 80 „	3,259	2,325	5,584
80 to 85 „	1,409	1,038	2,447
85 and upwards	646	502	1,148
Total	606,990	555,720	1,162,710

Ages in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

36. The ages of the people in the various Australasian Colonies were as follows when the census of 1891 was taken :—

Ages of the People in each Australasian Colony, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

Ages.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
MALES.							
Under 5 years	75,185	83,640	30,458	23,015	3,394	10,829	42,266
5 to 10 „	65,418	72,511	23,820	21,827	2,729	9,870	43,502
10 to 15 „	58,906	61,840	19,902	19,162	2,357	8,276	40,763
15 to 20 „	57,264	53,931	18,203	15,363	2,199	7,066	32,386
20 to 25 „	63,413	57,663	24,094	15,380	3,337	7,148	28,445

Ages.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
MALES—*continued.*							
25 to 30 years	63,080	59,752	25,723	14,400	3,825	7,454	23,797
30 to 35 „	47,864	51,933	21,356	13,426	2,880	6,056	22,106
35 to 40 „	31,824	40,238	15,593	10,758	1,946	4,473	20,549
40 to 45 „	24,034	31,227	12,217	8,115	1,412	3,316	17,824
45 to 50 „	22,111	26,865	10,538	6,827	1,225	2,574	17,094
50 to 55 „	22,804	22,586	9,192	5,401	1,208	2,296	16,836
55 to 60 „	22,264	17,644	5,448	4,094	1,041	1,932	10,981
60 to 65 „	20,213	12,504	3,596	3,529	875	1,900	7,716
65 to 70 „	11,144	6,945	1,793	2,378	520	1,492	3,939
70 to 75 „	7,240	4,997	1,079	1,723	370	1,405	2,515
75 to 80 „	3,210	2,837	505	850	130	790	1,135
80 and upwards	2,025	1,887	262	553	66	610	718
Total Males	598,089	608,003	223,779	166,801	29,514	77,487	332,877
FEMALES.							
Under 5 years	73,471	81,354	29,874	22,266	3,336	10,618	40,955
5 to 10 „	63,966	73,977	23,275	21,267	2,562	9,512	42,596
10 to 15 „	57,878	60,867	19,258	18,641	2,351	8,169	40,338
15 to 20 „	57,859	54,160	17,131	15,617	2,036	6,813	32,665
20 to 25 „	61,655	53,133	18,718	14,923	2,146	6,577	29,855
25 to 30 „	55,220	46,673	15,964	12,937	1,862	6,061	22,416
30 to 35 „	39,840	36,424	12,161	10,690	1,391	4,931	17,923
35 to 40 „	26,508	27,110	8,548	8,290	959	3,438	15,133
40 to 45 „	21,430	22,003	6,869	6,339	754	2,748	13,459
45 to 50 „	19,747	18,491	6,108	5,517	643	2,336	11,854
50 to 55 „	19,290	14,662	4,630	4,931	557	2,141	9,940
55 to 60 „	16,220	10,721	2,983	3,837	442	1,782	6,161
60 to 65 „	12,915	7,677	1,991	3,251	279	1,486	4,475
65 to 70 „	7,181	4,865	1,145	2,169	159	969	2,568
70 to 75 „	4,803	3,658	727	1,534	124	766	1,878
75 to 80 „	2,267	1,903	301	830	52	401	936
80 and upwards	1,501	1,273	196	591	40	293	629
Total Females	541,751	515,911	169,939	153,630	19,693	69,041	293,781

Women at reproductive age in Australasian Colonies.

37. According to the figures, women at the reproductive period of life (15 to 45 years) in Victoria were not only more numerous but furnished a higher proportion to the total number of females living than they did in any of the other Australasian Colonies. At the census of 1881, South Australia was at the head of the list, and Victoria second. The former had, in 1891, sunk to

the fifth place, whilst Victoria had risen to the highest. The following are the numbers and proportions for each colony:— VICTORIA. 1892.

Women at the Reproductive Period of Life (14 to 45 Years) in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

—	Number.	Number in 10,000 Females Living.
1. Victoria	262,512	4,846
2. Queensland	79,391	4,672
3. Western Australia	9,148	4,645
4. New South Wales	239,503	4,642
5. South Australia	68,796	4,478
6. New Zealand	131,451	4,474
7. Tasmania	30,568	4,428

38. According to the following figures the proportion which the births in 1891 bore to the number of women at the reproductive period of life returned at the census was lowest in New Zealand and next lowest in Victoria, the highest proportion being in Western Australia:— Proportion of births to women between 15 and 45 in Australasian Colonies.

Proportion of Births to Women at the Reproductive Age in the Australasian Colonies, 1891.

—	Number of Births.	Women living between 15 and 45 Years of Age.
1. Western Australia	1,786	or 1 birth to every 5·12
2. Queensland	14,785	„ „ 5·40
3. New South Wales	39,458	„ „ 6.07
4. Tasmania	4,971	„ „ 6·15
5. South Australia	10,737	„ „ 6.41
6. Victoria	38,505	„ „ 6·82
7. New Zealand	18,273	„ „ 7·19

39. The returns of the census of 1891 showed that the Australasian Colonies contained enough males at the soldiers' age (20 to 40 years) to admit of their raising a joint army of nearly 690,000 men, as against little over 450,000 at the previous census. Between the census periods the greatest increase was in Victoria, and the next in New South Wales. The mother colony, however, had still a larger number of men at this age than Victoria, although the difference in favour of the former, which was nearly 18,000 in 1881, was little more than 3,000 in 1891. The following were Males at soldiers' age in Australasian Colonies.

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the numbers in each colony at the last two censuses, also the increase in each during the intercensal period :—

Males at Soldiers' Age (20 *to* 40 *Years*) *in Australasian Colonies,* 1881 *and* 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

—	1881.	1891.	Increase.
Victoria	114,002	206,181	92,179
New South Wales	131,520	209,589	78,069
Queensland	46,427	86,766	40,339
South Australia	52,529	53,964	1,435
Western Australia	4,354	11,988	7,634
Tasmania	15,929	25,131	9,202
New Zealand	86,514	94,942	8,428
Total	451,275	688,561	237,286

Order of colonies in regard to proportion of males at soldiers' age.

40. In proportion to the total number of both sexes living, men at the soldiers' age in 1881 were fewer in Victoria than in any of the other Australasian Colonies. Victoria had, however, by 1891 risen to the fourth place in this respect, whilst New South Wales has risen from the fourth to the third. Queensland, which was at the head of the list in 1881, occupied the second place, whilst South Australia, which then occupied the second place, had fallen to the last place but one. The following are the proportions according to the returns of 1891 :—

Order of the Colonies in reference to Proportions of Males at the Soldiers' Age (20 *to* 40 *years*) *in their Populations,* 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

—	Number per 10,000 of both Sexes living.
1. Western Australia	2,436
2. Queensland	2,204
3. New South Wales	1,865
4. Victoria	1,809
5. Tasmania	1,715
6. South Australia	1,684
7. New Zealand	1,515

Relative strength of populations of Australasian Colonies.

41. In 1881, according to the ages of its inhabitants, Queensland had the strongest population in proportion to its number of any of the Australasian Colonies, Victoria in this respect standing second. By 1891 Queensland had sunk to the third place, the first place being occupied by Western Australia, and the second still held by Victoria. New South Wales, which occupied the fifth place in 1881, rose to the fourth place by 1891, that

being the position occupied at the former period by South Australia, which, by 1891, had sunk to the last place but one, New Zealand having risen above Tasmania and South Australia, whilst Tasmania fell to the bottom of the list. By the following table, which shows the proportions living at the supporting and dependent ages, the relative strength of the population of each colony, as existing in 1891, will be at once recognised :—

Effective Strength of the Populations of Australasian Colonies, 1891—*both Sexes.*

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

Colony.	Numbers—in every 10,000 Persons living.		
	At Supporting Ages (15 to 65 years.)	At Dependent Ages.	
		Under 15 years.	65 Years and upwards.
1. Western Australia - -	6,303	3,400	297
2. Victoria - - -	6,190	3,465	345
3. Queensland - - -	6,124	3,723	153
4. New South Wales - -	5,912	3,836	252
5. New Zealand - - -	5,774	3,996	230
6. South Australia - -	5,730	3,938	332
7. Tasmania - - -	5,632	3,909	459

Order of colonies in regard to proportions of young and old.

42. Relatively to the numbers of the population, New Zealand had in 1891 the largest proportion of children, whilst Victoria had a smaller proportion of children than any colony of the group except Western Australia. The colony which had the largest proportion of old people was Tasmania; Victoria being next in this respect. The following is the order in which, according to the figures in the table, the colonies respectively stood in regard to the proportions of the young and the old among their populations :—

Order of the Colonies in reference to Proportions of Children and Old People in their Populations, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines.)

Order in respect to Children under 15.	Order in respect to People of 65 and upwards.
1. New Zealand.	1. Tasmania.
2. South Australia.	2. Victoria.
3. Tasmania.	3. South Australia.
4. New South Wales.	4. Western Australia.
5. Queensland.	5. New South Wales.
6. Victoria.	6. New Zealand.
7. Western Australia.	7. Queensland.

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Occupations, 1892.

43. The occupations of the people of Victoria have been brought on by proportion to about the middle of 1892, in the same manner as the birthplaces and religions:—

Occupations of the People, 1892 (*estimated*).

Occupations.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ministering to Government, law, and order*	7,037	174	7,211
„ religion, charity, science, &c.	13,650	9,839	23,489
„ board, lodging, and attendance	15,120	43,691	58,811
Dealing in money and real property	8,455	1,175	9,630
„ art and mechanic productions	2,183	425	2,608
„ textile fabrics, dress, and fibrous articles	5,359	927	6,286
„ food, drinks, narcotics, and stimulants	13,226	1,442	14,668
„ animals, animal, and vegetable substances	4,627	277	4,904
„ minerals and metals	1,968	67	2,035
„ fuel and light	1,711	18	1,729
General and undefined dealers, merchants, shopkeepers	23,728	3,611	27,339
Engaged in storage	398	7	405
Carriers of passengers, goods, letters, and messages	31,053	1,590	32,643
Working in art and mechanic productions	28,975	1,054	30,029
„ textile fabrics, dress, and fibrous articles	11,357	27,274	38,631
„ food, drinks, narcotics, and stimulants	7,460	442	7,902
„ animal and vegetable substances	6,633	298	6,931
„ minerals and metals	14,892	66	14,958
„ fuel, light, and energy	1,060	2	1,062
„ buildings, railways, roads, and earthworks	34,445	19	34,464
Labourers and others (branch of labour undefined)	39,080	359	39,439
Engaged on land and animals	117,580	11,184	128,764
Of independent means	4,661	13,681	18,342
Performing household duties and being educated	205,498	433,402	638,900
Dependent on charity or in prison	6,834	4,696	11,530
Total	606,990	555,720	1,162,710

*Including those Government and municipal officers whose duties were mainly administrative or clerical, or who were returned as civil servants, public or municipal officers, &c., also lawyers and others connected with law.

44. Returns of the occupations of the people, based upon information obtained at the census of 1891, have been published by all the Australasian colonies except South Australia. The following is a statement of the numbers following the various occupations, grouped under twenty-five heads :—

Occupations in each colony—numbers.

Occupations of the People in Six Australasian Colonies, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines and of those whose occupations were not returned.)

MIXED SEXES.

Occupations.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
NUMBERS.						
1. Ministering to government, law, and order*	6,942	7,362	3,610	605	1,056	3,047
2. Ministering to religion charity, science, &c.	22,786	24,129	6,866	872	2,802	12,774
3. Ministering to board, lodging, and attendance	57,530	58,867	20,386	2,622	7,180	24,928
4. Dealing in money and real property	9,278	7,919	2,926	423	1,662	3,756
5. Dealing in art and mechanic productions	2,532	3,159	592	84	275	1,296
6. Dealing in textile fabrics, dress, and fibrous articles	6,064	5,822	1,429	110	587	3,144
7. Dealing in food, drink, groceries, narcotics, and stimulants	14,453	13,802	4,370	244	1,277	7,035
8. Dealing in animals, animal and vegetable substances	4,772	3,143	903	89	125	1,495
9. Dealing in minerals and metals	1,961	1,529	405	16	168	846
10. Dealing in fuel and light	1,665	1,349	66	1	186	397
11. General and undefined dealers, merchants, shopkeepers, clerks	26,961	18,739	6,789	1,144	2,632	8,779
12. Engaged in storage	390	314	397	33	4	1,035
13. Carriers of passengers, goods, letters, and messages	31,474	30,853	13,394	2,876	3,267	15,415
14. Working in art and mechanic productions	21,516	19,117	5,013	952	1,564	9,672
15. Working in textile fabrics, dress, and fibrous articles	37,439	24,601	7,415	437	2,803	12,437
16. Working in food, drinks, narcotics, and stimulants	7,617	7,923	2,230	264	815	4,453

* See footnote to last table.

Occupations.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
17. Working in animal and vegetable substances	6,683	9,198	2,886	595	788	3,563
18. Working in minerals and metal	14,414	12,091	4,059	509	1,383	5,513
19. Working in fuel, light, and energy	1,023	1,634	142	12	107	255
20. Working in buildings, railways, roads, and earthworks	41,201	39,063	10,767	1,777	5,166	12,679
21. Working in undefined mechanical operations (chiefly labourers)	38,544	26,912	14,622	1,789	3,390	14,949
22. Engaged on land and animals	128,934	137,026	67,992	8,630	23,568	90,546
23. Of independent means	17 743	10,223	464	229	671	3,103
24. Performing household duties and being educated	619,627	643,554	209,546	24,369	83,463	369,178
25. Dependent on charity or in prison	11,354	12,546	4,470	432	1,793	4,717
Total of specified occupations	1,132,905	1,120,890	391,789	49,114	146,202	622,010

Occupations in each colony—proportions per 1,000.

45. The next table shows, per 1,000 persons living in the same colonies, the proportions of those following the various occupations, grouped as before:—

Occupations of the People in Six Australasian Colonies, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines and of those whose occupations were not returned.)

MIXED SEXES.

Occupations.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
PROPORTIONS PER 1,000.						
1. Ministering to Government, law, and order*	6·13	6·56	9·21	12·32	7·22	4·90
2. Ministering to religion, charity, science, &c.	20·11	21·53	17·52	17·76	19·58	20·54
3. Ministering to board, lodging, and attendance	50·78	52·52	52·03	53·39	49·11	40·07
4. Dealing in money and real property	8·19	7·06	7·47	8·61	11·37	6·04
5. Dealing in art and mechanic productions	2·24	2·82	1·51	1·71	1·88	2·09
6. Dealing in textile fabrics, dress, and fibrous articles	5·35	5·19	3·65	2·24	4·02	5·05

Occupations.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
7. Dealing in food, drinks, groceries, narcotics, and stimulants	12·76	12·31	11·15	4·97	8·73	11·31
8. Dealing in animals, animal and vegetable substances	4·21	2·80	2·31	1·81	·86	2·40
9. Dealing in minerals and metals	1·73	1·36	1·03	·33	1·15	1·36
10. Dealing in fuel and light	1·47	1·20	·17	·02	1·34	·64
11. General undefined dealers, merchants, shopkeepers, clerks	23·30	16·72	17·33	23·29	13·90	14·11
12. Engaged in storage	·34	·28	1·01	·67	·03	1·66
13. Carriers of passengers, goods, letters, and messages	27·78	27·52	34·19	58·56	22·35	24·78
14. Working in art and mechanic productions	18·99	17·06	12·80	19·38	10·70	15·55
15. Working in textile fabrics, dress, and fibrous articles	33·05	21·95	18·93	8·90	19·17	31·25
16. Working in food, drinks, narcotics, and stimulants	6·72	7·07	5·82	5·38	5·57	7·16
17. Working in animal and vegetable substances	5·90	8·20	7·37	12·12	5·39	5·73
18. Working in minerals and metals	12·72	10·79	10·36	10·36	9·46	8·86
19. Working in fuel, light, and energy	·91	1·46	·36	·25	·73	·41
20. Working in buildings, railways, roads, and earthworks	36·37	34·87	27·48	36·18	35·33	20·39
21. Working in undefined mechanical operations (chiefly labourers)	34·02	24·01	37·32	36·41	23·19	24·03
22. Engaged on land and animals	113·81	122·25	173·54	175·71	161·20	145·57
23. Of independent means	15·66	9·12	1·19	4·66	4·59	4·99
24. Performing household duties (if any) or being educated	546·94	574·15	534·84	496·17	570·87	593·53
25. Dependent on charity or in prison	10·02	11·20	11·41	8·80	12·26	7·53
Total	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00

Occupations in Victoria.

46. In proportion to population, dealers and workers in textile fabrics and dress (groups 6 and 15), dealers in food and drink (group 7), dealers in animal and vegetable substances (group 8), dealers and workers in minerals and metals (groups 9 and 18), dealers in fuel and light (group 10), persons engaged in mercantile pursuits (group 11), workers in buildings, railways, and roads (group 20), and persons of independent means (group 23) were

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more numerous, whilst persons engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits (group 22) were less numerous in Victoria than in any other colony named.

Occupations in New South Wales.

47. New South Wales, as compared with the other colonies, had the largest proportion of persons ministering to religion, charity, and science (group 2), dealers in art and mechanic productions (group 5), and workers in fuel, light, and energy (group 19).

Occupations in Queensland.

48. In Queensland, the proportion of labourers (group 21) was higher, whilst that of persons ministering to religion and science (group 2), that of dealers in art and mechanic productions (group 5), and that of persons of independent means (group 23), were lower, than in any other colony.

Occupations in Western Australia.

49. The proportions which were higher in Western Australia than in any of the other colonies were those of persons ministering to government, law, and order (group 1), board and lodging house keepers and servants (group 3), carriers (group 13), workers in art and mechanic productions (group 14,) workers in animal and vegetable substances (group 17), and persons engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits (group 22); whilst the proportions which were lower than in the other colonies were those of workers and dealers in textile fabrics and dress (groups 6 and 15), workers and dealers in food and drink (groups 7 and 16), dealers in minerals and metals (group 9), workers and dealers in fuel and light (groups 10 and 19), and persons (chiefly women and children) performing domestic duties, or being educated (group 24).

Occupations in Tasmania.

50. The proportions in Tasmania of dealers in money and real property (group 4), and of paupers and prisoners (group 25,), were higher, whilst those of persons engaged in mercantile pursuits (group 11), of persons engaged in storage (group 12), of carriers (group 13), of workers in art and mechanic productions (group 14), of dealers and workers in animal and vegetable substances (groups 8 and 17), and of labourers (group 21) were lower, than in any of the other colonies.

Occupations in New Zealand.

51. In New Zealand, the proportions which were higher than in any of the other colonies were those of persons engaged in storage (group 12), of workers in food and drink (group 16), and of persons (chiefly women and children) performing domestic duties, or being educated (group 24); whilst the proportions which were lower than in the other colonies were those of persons ministering to government, law, and order (group 1), board and lodging house keepers and servants (group 3), dealers in money and real property (group 4), workers in minerals and metals (group 18), workers in buildings, railways, roads, and excavations (group 20), and paupers and prisoners (group 25).

Breadwinners and dependents in Australasian Colonies.

52. The number of breadwinners and the number of dependents in each of the colonies named are given in the following table, the sexes being distinguished :—

Breadwinners and Dependents in Six Australasian Colonies, 1891.

(Exclusive of Aborigines and of those whose occupations were not returned.)

Colony.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Bread-winners.	Depen-dents.	Bread-winners.	Depen-dents.	Bread-winners.	Depen-dents.
Victoria - - -	387,658	264,921	114,266	426,060	501,924	630,981
New South Wales -	382,306	223,182	82,484	432,918	464,790	656,100
Queensland - -	146,161	76,064	31,612	137,952	177,773	214,016
Western Australia-	21,361	8,083	2,952	16,718	24,313	24,801
Tasmania - -	48,515	28,727	12,431	56,529	60,946	85,256
New Zealand -	204,624	125,531	43,491	248,364	248,115	373,895

Relative proportion of breadwinners and dependents in Australasian Colonies.

53. In New Zealand the proportion of breadwinners was smaller, and consequently the proportion of dependents was larger, than in any of the other colonies. The following statement shows the relative proportions of the two classes in each colony :—

In New Zealand	100	breadwinners	supported	151	dependents
„ New South Wales	„	„	„	141	„
„ Tasmania	„	„	„	140	„
„ Victoria	„	„	„	125	„
„ Queensland	„	„	„	120	„
„ Western Australia	„	„	„	102	„

Unemployed in Australasian Colonies.

54. It is to be regretted that all the Australasian Colonies did not compile a return of the number of unemployed persons within their borders during the census week. A special column for that information was provided in the householder's schedule but no use seems to have been made of it in Queensland or New Zealand, whilst for South Australia the information is not yet available. The following are numbers returned as

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being out of work in the four colonies which have compiled the information :—

Unemployed in Four Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Numbers Unemployed.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - - - - -	19,930	3,317	23,247
New South Wales - -	19,518	2,865	22,383
Western Australia - - -	826	52	878
Tasmania - - -	1,331	229	1,560

Order of the colonies in regard to proportion of unemployed.

55. The unemployed referred to are those willing to work if able to find suitable occupation, and are included amongst the breadwinners in the previous table. If these be compared with the total number of breadwinners in the colonies named, it will be found that the highest proportion of unemployed was in New South Wales, Victoria standing second and Western Australia and Tasmania third and fourth. The following are the proportions in the four colonies :—

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportion of Unemployed, 1891.

	Percentage of Breadwinners.
1. New South Wales - - - - - -	4·82
2. Victoria - - - - - - - - -	4·63
3. Western Australia - - - - -	3·61
4. Tasmania - - - - - - -	2·56

Mining population, 1892.

56. When the census of 1891 was taken, the number of gold miners in Victoria was found to be 21,206 as against 35,189 returned 10 years previously. The estimate of gold miners made by the Department of Mines for the end of 1892 was 23,518, or 2,312 more than the number returned at the census. It is probable that in the departmental estimate referred to many men were considered as miners who would return themselves at the census as engineers, blacksmiths, carpenters, etc.; and, moreover, some selectors who were in the habit of dividing their time between mining and farming would return themselves as farmers. The departmental estimate for 1892 is subjoined :—

Estimated Number of Gold Miners, 1892.

Alluvial miners - - - -	10,308
Quartz miners - - - -	13,210
Total - - - -	23,518

European miners - - - - -	20,982
Chinese miners - - - -	2,536
Total - - - - -	23,518

European and Chinese miners.

57. According to the same estimate, the Europeans engaged in quartz mining at the end of 1892 exceeded those engaged in alluvial mining by 5,182; the numbers being 13,082 and 7,900 respectively. The Chinese seldom practise quartz mining; the numbers returned as engaged in that industry being only 128 as against 2,408 engaged in alluvial mining.

Immigration and emigration, 1892.

58. In 1892, for the first time during 30 years, the recorded departures by sea exceeded the recorded arrivals by sea;* the numbers of each, with the excess of the latter over the former, were as follows:—

Immigration and Emigration, 1892.

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	42,849	20,102	62,951
Departures by sea - - - -	46,718	22,496	69,214
Excess of departures - -	3,869	2,394	6,263

Gain, 1891; loss, 1892.

59. The records of both arrivals and departures show larger numbers for 1892 than for 1891, the former by 503, and the latter by 16,042; the apparent net gain, however, was 9,276 in 1891, whilst there was an apparent net loss of 6,263 in 1892.

Years in which departures exceeded arrivals.

60. Besides the year under notice, the only years since the first settlement of the Colony in which, according to the records, the departures exceeded the arrivals were 1843, 1861, and 1862. In the first of these the excess was 736, in the second 8,986, and in the last 367.

Adults and children arriving and departing.

61. The immigration authorities do not note the exact ages of the persons arriving and departing, but classify them as adults, or those from 12 years of age upwards; as children, or those between 1 year of age and 12 years; and as infants, or those under 1 year. The following are the numbers under each of these heads who came and went during 1892:—

Arrivals and Departures of Adults, Children, and Infants, 1892.

——	Adults.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Arrivals - - - -	58,690	3,958	303	62,951
Departures - - -	62,789	5,271	1,154	69,214
Emigration in excess -	4,099	1,313	851	6,263

* All the figures relating to arrivals in the Colony and departures therefrom contain statements of those who come and go by sea only. No attempt is made to keep an account of those who cross the frontier from and to the adjacent Colonies.

VICTORIA. 1892.

Arrivals from, and departures for, different countries.

62. The returns show a net loss by emigration of 5,526 persons to the eastern, and of 6,259 to the western colonies on the Australian Continent, also a loss of 847 to New Zealand; but a net gain by immigration of 5,827 from Tasmania, of 174 from the United Kingdom, and of 368 from foreign countries. The following is a statement of the recorded arrivals from, and departures for, each of these places during the year.

Arrivals from, and Departures for, different Countries, 1892.

Countries.	Arrivals therefrom.	Departures thereto.	Excess of Immigration.	Excess of Emigration.
New South Wales and Queensland	23,543	29,069	—	5,526
South and Western Australia	7,295	13,554	—	6,259
Tasmania	22,631	16,804	5,827	—
New Zealand	3,334	4,181	—	847
The United Kingdom	4,091	3,917	174	—
Foreign Countries	2,057	1,689	368	—
Total	62,951	69,214	—	6,263§

Immigration and emigration in Australasian Colonies, 1892.

63. The following table shows the recorded arrivals in, and departures from, each Australasian Colony by sea, and the excess of the former over the latter during the year 1892; the sexes of those who came and who went away being also distinguished:—

Immigration and Emigration Returns of the Australasian Colonies, 1892.

Colony.	Arrivals.			Departures.*			Excess of Arrivals over Departures.†		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria	42,849	20,102	62,951	46,718	22,496	69,214	−3,869	−2,394	−6,263
New South Wales	42,921	19,276	62,197	36,634	16,053	52,687	6,287	3,223	9,510
Queensland	10,211	4,435	14,646	9,393	4,171	13,564	818	264	1,082
South Australia‡	12,745	4,688	17,433	10,768	3,706	14,474	1,977	982	2,959
Western Australia	5,828	1,612	7,440	2,299	669	2,968	3,529	943	4,472
Total	114,554	5,113	164,667	105,812	47,095	152,907	8,742§	3,018§	§11,760
Tasmania	16,849	6,895	23,744	16,049	8,358	24,407	800	−1,463	§−663
New Zealand	12,131	5,991	18,122	8,469	4,695	13,164	3,662	1,296	4,958
Grand Total	143,534	62,999	206,533	130,330	60,148	190,478	13,204§	2,851§	§16,055

NOTE.—The figures in this table refer to immigration and emigration by sea only.

* The figures in these columns understate the truth. Many persons leave all the colonies by sea without their departure being noted.

† Where the minus sign (−) appears the departures exceeded the arrivals by the number against which it is placed.

‡ Exclusive of the Northern Territory. § Net figures.

64. The figures in the table indicate the persons going from colony to colony, as well as those arriving from, and departing for, distant countries. The figures in the total and grand total lines of the last three columns, however, ought to show the net gain to the population of Australia and Australasia by immigration. By the last of these columns it is seen that, in 1892, the Australian Continent apparently gained about 11,800, and the continent, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, apparently gained over 16,000 inhabitants. The corresponding figures for 1891 were 36,561 and 39,445; those for 1890 were 51,139 and 51,804; those for 1889 were 48,802 and 51,638; those for 1888 were 73,844 and 65,599; those for 1887 were 61,732 and 65,041; and those for 1886 were 63,144 and 64,947. Many persons, however, leave all the colonies by sea without their departure being noted; therefore the actual gain from without is always less than the records indicate.

Net gain by immigration to Australia and Australasia.

65. It will be noticed that, according to the returns, all the colonies gained by excess of immigration over emigration except Victoria and Tasmania, the former of which lost 6,263 and the latter 663 persons by excess of departures over arrivals. The loss in Tasmania was confined to females, of which there was a net emigration of 1,463, whilst, on the other hand, there was a gain of 800 males by the net immigration of persons of that sex.

Net loss in Victoria and Tasmania.

64. Cities in Victoria number 11, towns 10, and boroughs 38, or 59 in all. The following is a statement of the estimated area, population, and number of dwellings, the total and annual value of rateable property, and the total revenue of each city, town, and borough during the year 1892. The areas have been quite recently carefully revised by the Lands Department:—

Cities, towns, and boroughs, 1892.

Cities, Towns, and Boroughs, 1892.

Name.	Estimated Area in Acres.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
CITIES.				£	£	£
Ballarat	4,090	23,000	5,524	2,669,580	177,972	31,085
Bendigo	7,900	27,200	6,424	1,673,050	167,305	27,049
Collingwood	1,139	33,673	7,947	2,498,070	249,807	27,348
Fitzroy	923	30,510	6,987	3,496,070	349,607	35,873
Footscray	3,693	18,253	4,383	3,600,000	172,995	30,174
Hawthorn	2,389	18,860	4,412	3 097,728	258,144	28,613
Melbourne	5,020	74,317	15,844	19,778,330	1,977,833	220,496
Prahran	2,320	37,820	9,060	7,491,582	535,113	48,960
Richmond	1,130	33,020	9,061	4,101,705	273,447	40,847
South Melbourne	2,311	42,617	9,209	10,605,800	530,290	64,818
St. Kilda	2,046	20,202	4,147	3,974,399	305,723	34,148

Name.	Estimated Area in Acres.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
				£	£	£
Towns.						
Ballarat East	4,331	16,700	4,087	793,600	79,350	12,603
Brighton	3,288	9,833	2,223	2,980,660	149,033	15,282
Brunswick	2,722	20,007	5,350	2,108,750	210,875	26,374
Essenden	4,000	14,726	3,619	2,788,158	185,877	27,394
Geelong	3,012	11,900	2,740	973,030	97,303	15,664
Northcote	2,850	7,100	1,843	1,635,228	90,846	11,509
North Melbourne	563	22,325	4,403	1,175,148	175,148	19,077
Port Melbourne	2,366	12,320	2,809	1,137,720	113,772	15,920
Warrnambool	3,450	6,300	1,362	985,400	49,270	12,853
Williamstown	2,775	16,000	3,500	1,230,800	123,080	16,682
Boroughs.						
Ararat	3,840	3,235	585	177,150	17,715	3,014
Browns and Scarsdale	5,760	710	170	10,710	2,142	274
Buninyong	3,424	1,200	303	63,420	6,342	1,029
Carisbrook	5,395	1,314	273	56,680	5,700	910
Castlemaine	5,760	4,700	1,100	302,600	30,260	4,656
Chewton	5,760	1,250	408	33,170	6,634	663
Clunes	5,760	3,117	705	81,466	11,638	2,626
Creswick	4,760	3,000	684	81,830	10,229	2,679
Daylesford	4,062	4,130	890	171,200	17,120	4,210
Dunolly	5,760	1,425	365	80,000	8,258	1,378
Eaglehawk	3,640	7,645	1,811	413,103	31,854	4,867
Echuca	4,308	4,500	1,080	350,000	32,864	5,547
Flemington and Kensington	1,688	10,500	2,200	1,900,000	95,000	13,779
Geelong West	859	5,715	1,426	362,766	30,230	4,864
Hamilton	5,100	3,400	650	200,000	21,879	4,876
Heathcote	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horsham	5,760	3,000	600	300,000	26,495	4,676
Inglewood	2,560	1,300	400	47,000	8,473	1,291
Kew	3,553	8,500	1,470	1,595,434	106,362	11,252
Koroit	5,590	1,675	315	193,512	16,126	2,150
Majorca	5,005	1,005	270	33,440	4,180	574
Malmsbury	4,214	1,367	420	34,850	6,974	1,153
Maryborough	5,760	5,200	1,100	287,609	28,760	4,438
Newtown and Chilwell	1,422	5,216	1,100	498,405	33,227	3,952
Oakleigh	2,178	1,150	308	365,000	24,217	1,908
Port Fairy	5,902	1,500	415	253,906	12,696	3,682

Name.	Estimated Area in Acres.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
BOROUGHS—*cont.*				£	£	£
Portland	2,860	2,284	500	212,610	14,174	3,762
Queenscliff	2,173	2,000	364	158,340	13,195	2,481
Raywood	5,760	480	108	15,418	2,164	379
Rutherglen	1,280	840	190	46,936	5,867	1,349
Sale	5,442	3,415	777	370,000	27,781	8,468
Sebastopol	1,880	2,580	595	90,000	8,275	1,265
Smythesdale	1,440	423	112	19,305	1,930	173
St. Arnaud	6,355	3,100	640	174,030	17,403	3,474
Stawell	5,996	5,200	1,150	144,000	20,578	3,606
Talbot	5,578	1,420	300	31,315	6,263	1,039
Tarnagulla	5,153	720	200	40,000	5,326	658
Wangaratta	3,932	2,050	450	148,990	14,899	2,967
Wood's Point	2,560	299	65	—	—	—
Total	220,238 or 344 sq. m.	607,560	139,553	88,138,720	7,006,030	882,795

67. The next table gives a list of the shires, numbering 139, together with a statement of the estimated area, population, and number of dwellings; the total and annual value of rateable property, and the total revenue of each shire, during the year 1892:— Shires, 1892.

Shires, 1892.

Name.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Sq. Miles.			£	£	£
Alberton	1,413	5,793	1,411	650,570	65,057	9,350
Alexandra	766	2,644	570	305,000	33,687	5,953
Arapiles	769	3,600	680	800,000	33,442	4,285
Ararat	1,[illegible]	4,650	930	1,649,330	82,466	10,505
Avoca	453	4,585	1,150	254,210	25,428	3,587
Avon	640	2,358	523	500,000	33,552	5,461
Bacchus Marsh	210	2,500	540	342,380	26,337	4,056
Bairnsdale	1,130	8,000	1,720	1,033,000	76,594	14,538
Ballan	359	6,000	1,200	671,440	36,738	7,060
Ballarat	182	4,491	870	985,685	49,283	6,868
Bannockburn	133	1,850	320	260,000	18,247	2,245

Name.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Sq. Miles.			£	£	£
Barrabool	195	2,068	426	323,100	24,854	2,921
Beechworth	314	8,000	1,650	373,090	37,309	7,475
Belfast	201	2,700	490	1,031,600	40,451	5,758
Bellarine	128	4,450	995	506,980	42,248	5,428
Benalla	1,140	9,000	1,760	981,840	98,184	14,881
Berwick	387	4,125	930	1,213,270	60,664	7,389
Bet Bet	337	3,600	1,100	220,500	22,967	5,467
Boroondara	13	6,430	1,558	3,000,000	151,675	15,335
Borung	852	5,621	1,147	719,760	53,982	5,590
Braybrook	92	1,891	412	902,000	45,100	4,659
Bright	1,292	4,258	975	238,610	23,861	4,133
Broadford	218	1,630	324	258,000	12,900	1,477
Broadmeadows	74	1,250	342	377,225	37,772	4,509
Bulla	112	2,300	340	535,000	26,735	3,114
Buln Buln	475	4,000	1,850	870,660	43,533	10,188
Bungaree	88	5,600	1,000	669,300	33,465	4,855
Buninyong	296	7,000	1,496	589,040	40,920	6,232
Caulfield	9½	8,200	2,000	3,489,730	193,874	17,044
Chiltern	95	2,300	505	70,220	10,032	1,368
Coburg	.7½	5,821	1,300	865,480	86,548	10,897
Colac	1,094	8,000	1,550	1,713,900	114,260	15,439
Corio	243	2,167	456	300,000	30,332	3,475
Cranbourne	218	1,950	420	715,890	35,790	4,269
Creswick	198	8,016	1,707	1,243,360	62,168	8,331
Croajingolong	3,721	2,600	—	—	—	—
Dandenong	60	2,166	512	469,020	39,085	5,616
Darebin	81	1,400	270	194,020	19,402	2,515
Dimboola	4,756	5,280	1,150	1,045,560	52,278	7,251
Doncaster	13½	992	187	468,440	53,422	2,428
Dundas	1,364	3,374	699	1,800,050	89,645	9,968
Dunmunkle	551	4,800	911	1,027,000	61,074	7,753
East Loddon	455	1,700	400	338,860	33,386	4,403
Echuca	1,115	7,347	1,504	1,980,000	89,956	12,935
Eltham	216	3,900	635	628,200	31,410	4,050
Euroa	860	7,500	1,400	843,670	70,326	9,065
Fern Tree Gully	120	2,500	500	677,140	33,857	3,673
Flinders and Kangerong	184	2,540	560	532,000	26,600	3,219
Gisborne	100	3,840	930	249,800	24,980	2,906
Glenelg	1,411	5,000	967	1,901,600	95,080	12,545

Name.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Sq. Miles.			£	£	£
Glenlyon	121	2,700	600	171,860	17,186	1,965
Gordon	856	4,150	900	1,207,100	60,350	7,993
Goulburn	257	2,553	520	280,000	31,634	6,181
Grenville	315	3,555	945	340,500	32,552	4,099
Hampden	1,738	8,360	1,700	2,988,780	149,439	19,578
Healesville	197	1,250	246	200,000	12,600	2,826
Heidelberg	41	4,400	820	1,534,940	76,747	10,482
Howqua	834	2,000	505	25,000	4,920	1,317
Huntly	335	4,000	750	385,960	31,960	3,665
Kara Kara	911	4,584	1,118	486,460	48,646	5,296
Keilor	53	747	200	186,990	18,699	1,976
Kilmore	92	2,422	502	221,715	23,116	2,885
Korong	1,121	8,500	2,100	1,212,720	72,777	9,338
Kowree	1,448	3,000	650	809,970	53,993	6,774
Kyneton	253	8,730	1,940	1,411,790	70,589	11,636
Lancefield	38	1,240	255	226,000	15,156	1,889
Lawloit	2,265	2,453	450	463,680	37,335	3,307
Leigh	381	1,519	370	394,450	39,445	5,104
Lexton	300	2,300	500	427,275	26,705	3,295
Lilydale	180	4,739	1,020	777,390	51,826	6,052
Lowan	2,289	6,100	2,130	1,200,000	67,082	10,219
Maffra	966	3,660	710	916,280	45,814	7,093
Maldon	212	4,400	1,670	568,320	28,416	5,031
Malvern	6½	8,856	1,989	4,189,920	209,496	22,296
Mansfield	825	4,000	920	820,000	40,743	7,494
Marong	562	7,345	1,968	656,345	65,634	9,153
Melton	101½	1,200	232	359,660	17,968	2,263
Meredith	181	1,268	287	307,040	15,352	1,867
Merriang	117	1,086	243	214,440	17,870	1,530
Metcalfe	213	3,097	690	130,230	26,046	3,274
Mildura	4,564	3,500	550	683,610	45,574	2,869
Minhamite	541	1,813	456	1,394,960	47,448	5,455
Moorabbin	32	6,361	1,449	1,877,590	156,466	12,911
Mornington	118	3,750	900	1,134,360	56,718	6,199
[illegible]	815	2,884	525	860,700	86,070	9,782
[illegible]	255	2,300	—	--	—	—
[illegible]	50	2,350	655	66,230	11,039	1,570
[illegible]	107	2,921	760	144,800	15,607	2,400
	537	2,164	460	1,217,660	60,883	8,419

Name.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total. Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Sq. Miles.			£	£	£
McIvor	580	3,988	942	714,120	35,706	5,066
Narracan	640	4,000	920	677,540	33,877	5,554
Newham	91	3,215	540	278,400	18,560	2,592
Newstead	105	2,370	525	239,130	15,942	2,350
North Ovens	237	1,966	392	434,170	21,708	3,108
North Yarrawonga	242	3,300	628	720,000	37,324	4,432
Numurkah	765	7,695	1,524	1,478,200	73,910	9,882
Nunawading	23¼	4,000	1,005	1,633,760	81,638	9,512
Oakleigh	25¼	1,677	355	972,180	48,609	5,723
Omeo	2,211	3,650	848	604,215	40,281	7,774
Orbey	1,005	3,460	716	683,900	34,195	5,287
Phillip Island	304	2,000	250	560,000	28,000	4,836
Poowong & Jeetho	151	2,630	405	654,800	31,181	4,674
Portland	1,460	5,700	1,100	144,690	72,345	8,988
Preston	13¾	3,126	818	1,405,020	70,252	6,748
Pyalong	229	1,200	220	296,520	14,826	1,726
Ripon	588	4,400	1,075	928,405	61,894	8,021
Rodney	400	5,279	1,131	886,770	59,118	7,277
Romsey	85	1,910	372	532,580	26,629	3,287
Rosedale	804	3,760	750	1,006,440	50,322	6,963
Rutherglen	205	3,750	876	493,680	30,855	4,317
Seymour	382	4,850	1,220	397,120	39,712	7,484
Shepparton	208	4,000	730	433,250	43,325	7,306
South Barwon	65	2,159	523	183,140	18,314	2,542
Springfield	111	1,000	193	302,620	15,131	1,667
St. Arnaud	1,690	7,469	1,509	1,685,900	93,661	10,340
Stawell	994	3,829	935	983,380	51,757	6,607
Strathfieldsaye	234	3,580	760	204,930	20,493	2,483
Swan Hill	5,621	8,000	1,525	1,768,800	88,440	10,204
Talbot	184	1,755	450	173,016	17,301	2,297
Tambo	1,295	2,200	975	657,100	32,856	5,704
Templestowe	20¼	820	198	293,220	14,660	1,851
Tenong	2,545	5,270	1,047	1,082,620	54,131	10,131
Traralgon	199	2,560	1,070	193,305	38,660	7,1[illegible]
Tulamrop	222	3,750	920	261,570	26,157	
Upper Yarra	454	800	250	272,200	13,612	
Walhalla	469	2,472	700	58,300	15,57[illegible]	
Wannon	753	2,485	479	1,490,780	74	
Warrnambool	700	6,700	1,800	1,977,120		

Name.	Estimated Area.	Estimated Population.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
				Total.	Annual.	
	Sq. Miles.			£	£	£
Warragul - - -	123	3,800	800	864,660	43,233	8,581
Warrnambool - -	610	8,547	1,605	2,577,580	128,879	15,857
Whittlesea - -	138	1,884	440	184,000	18,400	3,081
Wimmera - -	1,140	5,955	1,191	1,564,700	76,735	9,639
Winchelsea - -	630	3,500	720	950,000	49,090	7,495
Wodonga - - -	104	1,848	362	142,330	14,233	2,325
Wooayl - -	610	4,000	600	700,000	39,991	8,821
Wyndham - -	275	1,860	400	1,423,000	69,890	9,179
Yackandandah -	812	5,225	1,140	794,000	39,780	6,454
Yarrawonga - -	602	6,662	1,158	994,250	76,481	16,269
Yea - - -	600	3,300	560	714,100	35,705	4,662
Total - - -	86,821½	537,127	117,238	109,228,220	6,599,960	884,157

68. The total area included in the two descriptions of municipalities is as follows:— Area of municipalities.

Area embraced in Municipalities, 1892.

—	Sq. Miles.
Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	344
Shires - - - - - - -	86,821½
Total - - - - - - -	87,165½

69. The estimated area in Victoria is 87,884 square miles. It thus appears that all but about a one hundred and twentieth part of this area is included within the limits of municipal districts. Proportion to total area of Victoria.

70. The population of the two kinds of districts, as estimated by the municipal authorities, was as follows at the end of 1892:— Population of municipalities.

Population of Municipalities, 1892.

Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	607,560
Shires - - - - -	537,127
Total - - - -	1,144,687

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Population outside municipalities.

71. According to the recent census, the shore residents living outside municipalities numbered only 91, whilst persons in ships and vessels numbered 2,439 or 2,530 in all. If this number be added to the municipal estimate of population the total would be 1,147,217, or 20,156 less than the estimated population at the end of the year, already stated to have been 1,167,373. The municipal estimate is made up about August, or four months before the other one, still the difference between the two estimates is wider than it would be if both had been correct. There is no doubt sufficient pains are not taken in some municipalities to secure a correct return of the population.

Ratepayers in municipalities.

72. The ratepayers in the two kinds of municipal districts numbered as follows, in 1892. Each ratepayer is not necessarily a distinct individual, as ratepayers having property in more than one municipality, or more than one ward or riding of the same municipality, are entered on the municipal roll for each such property:—

Ratepayers in Municipalities, 1892.

Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	142,477
Shires - - - - -	141,470
Total - - - -	283,947

Dwellings in municipalities.

73. The following is a statement of the number of dwellings in the two kinds of municipal districts as returned at the end of 1892:—

Dwellings in Municipalities, 1892.

Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	139,553
Shires - - - - -	117,238
Total - - - -	256,791

Persons to dwellings in municipalities.

74. According to the census of 1891, the inhabited dwellings in the colony numbered 224,021. All of these except 26 were situated in municipal districts.

Area, population, &c. in shires and boroughs compared.

75. The area contained in shires is about 250 times that in cities, towns and boroughs, but the population in the latter exceeds that in the former by nearly an eighth, and the dwellings in the latter exceed those in the former by nearly a fifth.

Finance account, 1891–92.

76. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Victoria in the financial year ended on the 30th June 1892; the excess of the latter over the former; the debit balance

brought forward from 1890-91, and that carried forward to 1892-93 :—

Finance Account of Victoria, 1891–92.*

(Exclusive of recoups and special receipts and expenditure.)

	£	s.	d.
Receipts - - - -	7,729,571	10	4
Expenditure - - -	8,482,916	12	0
Expenditure in excess of receipts - - -	753,345	1	8
Debit balance from 1890-91 -	206,842	17	8
Debit balance carried forward to 1892-93 - - -	£960,187	19	4

77. During the financial year under review, the expenditure exceeded the receipts by 753,345*l.*, and, adding this to the debit balance brought forward from the previous year, viz., 206,842*l.*, there results a debit balance of 960,188*l.*, to be carried forward to 1892–93. This is only the second debit balance which has occured during the last 11 years. Large debit balance.

78. In the following table the receipts and expenditure, exclusive of advances recouped and to be recouped, are given for each of the 11 financial years ended with 1891–92; also the surplus or deficiency of revenue in each year, and the credit or debit balances carried forward from year to year :— Net revenue and expenditure.

Net Public Revenue and Net Public Expenditure, 1881–82 *to* 1891–92.

Year.	Excluding Advances Recouped and to be Recouped.			
	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.	Surplus (+). Deficiency (−).	Balances carried forward Credit (+) Debit (−).
	£	£	£	£
1881-82 -	5,589,972	5,145,764	+ 444,208	+ 144,608
1882-83 -	5,602,066	5,643,885	- 41,819	+ 102,789

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly in September, 1893, by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1892-93 was 6,959,229*l.*, and the expenditure was 7,991,956*l.*, the latter thus exceeding the former by 1,032,727*l.*, which amount, being added to the balance at the beginning of the financial year, leaves a debit balance of 1,992,915*l.*, which, being added to the balance at the debit of the Land Sales by Auction Fund, 502,817*l.* (which until recouped by the sale of lands by auction, remains a charge on the public account), results in a total debit balance of 2,495,732*l.*, of which 738,867 is covered by the issue of temporary Treasury bills. The estimated population at about the middle of the same 12 months was about 1,167,373, so that the revenue per head was 5*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure per head 6*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* These figures are not final.

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Year.	Excluding Advances Recouped and to be Recouped.			
	Public Revenue	Public Expenditure.	Surplus (+). Deficiency (−)	Balances carried forward Credit (+). Debit (−).
	£	£	£	£
1883–84 -	5,934,578	5,653,293	+ 281,285	+ 384,074
1884–85 -	6,290,361	6,121,564	+ 168,797	+ 552,871
1885–86 -	6,416,406	6,513,540	− 97,134	+ 455,737
1886–87 -	6,733,826	6,561,251	+ 172,575	+ 628,312
1887–88 -	7,607,598	7,287,151	+ 320,447	+ 948,758
1888–89 -	8,675,990	7,919,902	+ 756,088	+ 1,704,846
1889–90 -	8,519,159	9,645,737	− 1,126,578	+ 578,268
1890–91 -	8,343,588	9,128,699	− 785,111	− 206,843
1891–92 -	7,729,572	8,482,917	− 753,345	− 960,188

Years of highest and lowest surplus and deficiency, &c.

79. It will be noticed that the gross revenue showed a surplus in six, and a deficiency in five, of the years named. On the whole, the deficiencies were larger than the surpluses, as the credit balance, amounting to 145,000*l.*, carried forward at the end of the first year has disappeared, and its place at the end of the last year has been supplied by a debit balance of 960,000*l.* By far the largest surplus of revenue ever received was in 1888–89 (756,000*l.*) when it exceeded by nearly one-third of a million sterling that in 1881–82 (444,000*l.*), which was the next largest. The largest deficiencies of revenue were in 1889–90, 1890–91, and 1891–92, in the order named. It should be pointed out, however, that the deficit in those years would have been less by over half a million sterling but for the system, in vogue for some years, of charging forward expenditure from one year to another having been abandoned in those years with the view of placing the accounts on a sounder basis.

Changes in sources of revenue.

80. No changes were made in the taxation of the people in 1891–92. As regards other sources of revenue, the railways were extended by an average length of 140 miles during the year; and, in consequence, the revenue derivable therefrom might have been expected to increase, allowing 1,240*l.*, per mile, by about 174,000*l.* As a matter of fact, however, the railway revenue decreased by 208,000*l.*, as will be shown later on, owing to a serious falling-off in the traffic.

Revenue 1891–92 and previous years.

81. The revenue was less in 1891–92 by 614,000 than in 1890–91, by 790,000*l.* than in 1889–90, and by 946,000, than in 1888–89;

it was, however, larger by 122,000*l.* than in 1887–8, and close on 1,000,000*l.* larger than that raised in any other previous year. Comparing 1881–82, 10 years previously, with the year under review, it will be found that the revenue increased from 5,600,000*l.* to 7,700,000*l.*, or by 37 per cent., the population during the same period having increased by only 30 per cent.

Expenditure, 1891–92 and former years.

82. The ordinary expenditure was less in 1891–92 than in 1890–91 by 646,000*l.*, and than in 1889–90 by 1,163,000*l.*, but was larger than in 1888–89 by 563,000, than in 1887–88 by nearly 1,200,000*l.*, and than in 1886–87 by close on 2,000,000*l.* Prior to 1853, the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–73 it was usually nearly up to, or slightly over, three millions; from 1873–74 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–84 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions; from 1884–5 to 1888–89 it increased from six to nearly eight millions sterling; whilst in 1889–90 and 1890–91 it exceeded nine millions, and in 1891–92 it nearly equalled eight and a half millions.

Revenue and expenditure per head, 1881–82 to 1891–92.

83. A statement of the revenue and expenditure per head during each of the last 11 years will be found in the following table:

Revenue and Expenditure per Head, 1881–82 *to* 1891–92

Year.	Average Population of each Financial Year.	Revenue per Head.			Expenditure per Head.		
		£	*s*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1881–82 - -	879,886	6	7	1	5	17	0
1882–83 - -	899,562	6	4	6	6	5	5
1883–84 - -	920,694	6	8	11	6	2	9
1884–85 - -	944,564	6	13	2	6	9	7
1885–86 - -	969,202	6	12	5	6	14	5
1886–87 - -	1,000,510	6	14	7	6	11	1
1887–88 - -	1,032,993	7	7	4	7	1	1
1888–89 - -	1,076,966	8	1	1	7	7	1
1889–90 - -	1,103,727	7	14	5	8	14	10
1890–91 - -	1,133,266	7	7	3	8	1	1
1891–92 - -	1,157,678	6	13	6	7	6	7

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1891–92 and former years.

84. The revenue per head in 1891–92 was less by 13*s.* 9*d.* and the expenditure per head was less by 14*s.* 6*d.*, than in the previous year. The former was also considerably lower than in any year since 1886–87, but differed slightly from the average for the three years ended with that year; whilst the latter was much lower than in 1889–90 or 1890–91, slightly lower than in 1888–89 but higher than in any other year named. In proportion to population, the revenue and, as a consequence, the expenditure, declined pretty steadily, year by year, from 1862 to 1872–73; then a gradual increase took place from year to year until the revenue per head reached a maximum in 1888–89, and the expenditure in 1889–90; but since then a rapid falling-off has occurred. It will also

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be noticed that the expenditure per head exceeded the revenue per head in 1891–92 by 13*s.* 1d. as compared with 13*s.* 10*d.* in 1890–91, and 1*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* in 1889–90.

Heads of revenue, 1890–91 and 1891–92.

85. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz. :—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Post and Telegraphs and Other Sources. In 1891–92, 3,149,000*l.*, or 41 per cent., was derived from taxation; 520,000*l.*, or 7 per cent., from Crown Lands; 3,750,000*l.*, or 48 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government, viz :—Railways, Water Works, and Post and Telegraphs, to which the Railways alone contributed as much as 3,100,000*l.*, or 40 per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to 309,000*l.*, or about 4 per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the Land Revenue, amounting to 520,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 393,000*l.*—being equal to over 5 per cent. of the total revenue— was derived from the sale of public land, which, being a receipt arising from the realization of one of the most valuable assets of the country, is obviously not a permanent source of income. As a rule, portion of this amount is properly treated as capital, about 100,000*l.* being paid annually towards the construction of railways, as directed by the *Land Acts* 1884 and 1890, which provide that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the Railway Construction Account. This contribution, however, is from 1891–92 to be temporarily diverted for some years into the Land Sales by Auction Fund, until the public works authorised out of that fund have been constructed. The following is a statement of the amounts received under different heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head :—

Heads of Revenue, 1890–91 *and* 1891–92.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890–91.	1891–92.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,525,572	2,388,961	—	136,611
Excise	129,990	143,575	13,585	—
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	20,669	18,880	—	1,789
Licenses (business)	22,152	20,755	—	1,397
Duties on estates of deceased persons	184,886	247,334	62,648	—
Duties on bank notes	30,736	27,954	—	2,782
Stamp duty	218,000	175,000	—	43,000
Land tax	120,633	126,651	6,018	—
Total	3,252,638	3,149,310	—	103,328

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received. 1890-91.	Amounts received. 1891-92.	Increase.	Decrease.
LAND REVENUE.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	476,542	392,544	—	83,998
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	136,601	127,040	—	9,561
Penalties under Land Acts	308	—	—	308
Total	613,451	519,584	—	93,867
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	3,306,580	3,098,251	—	208,329
Water supply { Metropolitan	204,026	57,349	—	146,677
Water supply { Country	77,055	84,352	7,297	—
Other public works	6,701	8,614	1,913	—
Total	3,594,362	3,248,566	—	345,796
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.				
Postal receipts, &c.	322,693	336,558	13,865	—
Telegraph receipts, &c.	176,634	166,248	—	10,386
Total	499,327	502,806	3,479	—
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges	10,655	11,575	1,100	—
„ subsidy returned	4,760	10,498	5,738	—
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamps)	162,452	137,148	—	25,304
Interest on public account	56,492	33,243	—	23,249
Rents (other than Crown lands)	2,427	1,893	—	534
Reimbursements in aid	76,522	72,413	—	4,109
Miscellaneous receipts	70,502	42,356	—	28,146
Total	383,810	309,306	—	74,504
Total Ordinary Revenue	8,343,588	7,729,572	—	614,016

86. Comparing the revenue of 1891–92 with that of the previous year, it will be observed that there was a total net decrease of 614,000*l.*, resulting from a falling-off of 726,000*l.* under 16 heads, less an increase of 112,000*l.* under the other eight. In taxation there was a falling-off of 185,500, mainly in the revenue from customs and stamp duties, partly counterbalanced by an increase of 82,200*l.*, in the receipts from estates of deceased persons, excise, and land revenue, the resulting net decrease being 103,300*l.* There was also a similar falling-off in the land revenue, viz., 93,900*l.*, which is chiefly to be attributed to the smaller quantity of Crown land alienated, the receipts from rental alone having fallen off by less than 10,000*l.*, the greatest decrease of all, however, was in the railway revenue, which fell off by 208,300*l.*, notwithstanding the greater length of lines opened for traffic. The revenue of the Melbourne Water Works having been transferred to the newly constituted Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, there is naturally a decrease of 146,700*l.* under that head; the amount of

Diminished revenue, 1891–92, under various heads.

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57,300*l.*, appearing in 1891–92 for the first time being for interest on Government loans for which the Board has has become responsible. Postal receipts &c., which, besides receipts from postage include commission on money orders, proceeds of parcels post, &c., show an apparent increase of 13,900*l.*, but the Telegraph revenue shows, for the first time for many years, a falling off, viz., of 10,400*l.* although it is still higher than in any year prior to 1889–90. Under "Other sources," there was a decrease of 25,300*l.* in fees, &c., owing to the general contraction in business; of 23,200*l.* in the interest received on the public account, and 28,000*l.* under miscellaneous receipts.

Heads of expenditure, 1890–91 and 1891–92.

87. Of the total ordinary expenditure of Victoria in 1891–92 1,352,000*l.*, or 16 per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government, maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attack; 863,000*l.*, excluding 5,900*l.* for buildings, or 10 per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 300,000*l.*, or 3½ per cent., was expended on public charities or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 98,000*l.*, or 1 per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, or about 29,000*l.* less than the gross annual rental therefrom during the same financial year; as much as 4,513,000*l.*, or 53 per cent., was absorbed in carrying on the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 2,157,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, besides 1,600,000*l.* in interest and expenses on loans raised for their construction, and 756,000*l.* on post and telegraphs; 114,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the construction of other public works; 85,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue from Customs duties and Excise, whilst 34,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and 268,000*l.*, or 3 per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 82,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary expenditure for the year; but, besides this, an amount of 759,900*l.*, or nearly 9 per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on the construction of various public works of a permanent character, viz., 5,900*l.* on State school buildings, and 754,000*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection and of maintenance of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies (380,000*l.*). These amounts might be considered as a set-off against the proceeds of land sales, before referred to, which they even exceeded by 367,000*l.* In 1891–92 there were also certain items of special expenditure, amounting to 20,139*l.* (in addition to 108,905*l.* in the three previous years) for the extension and improvement of the Law Courts and offices, recouped from the proceeds of the sale of the city police court. The following is a classification of the expenditure under 10 divisions and 28 subsidiary heads, during the years 1890–91 and 1891–92, also the increase or decrease in the latter year.

Heads of Expenditure, 1890-91 *and* 1891-92.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890-91.	1891-92.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list	41,827	42,223	396	—
Legislature	73,503	95,891	22,388	—
Civil establishment	166,964	149,868	—	17,096
Retiring allowances and pensions	125,504	138,981	13,477	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	56,697	60,724	4,027	—
Total	464,495	487,687	23,192	—
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.				
Judicia and legal	237,941	217,823	—	20,118
Police	284,097	283,409	—	688
Gaols and penal establishments	71,429	65,679	—	5,750
Defences—Naval and Military	294,967	297,828	2,861	—
Total	888,434	864,739	—	23,695
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.				
Public instruction, science, &c.	867,641	863,070	—	4,571
State school buildings	76,390	5,904	—	70,486
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	303,134	300,450	—	2,684
Total	1,247,165	1,169,424	—	77,741
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	99,695	98,031	—	1,664
Agriculture, &c.	130,948	142,111	11,163	—
Mining	121,310	126,380	5,070	—
Total	351,953	366,522	14,569	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses	2,462,582	2,118,377	—	344,205
„ Construction account	107,428	—	—	107,428
Land Sales by Auction Fund	—	73,599	73,599	—
Water supply	71,855	38,500	—	33,355
Other public works	887,453	680,253	—	207,200
Total	3,529,318	2,910,729	—	618,589
Post and telegraphs	742,666	756,190	13,524	—
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways	1,279,195	1,354,216	75,021	—
„ „ Water supply	249,935	246,190	—	3,745
„ „ Other works	117,754	114,010	—	3,744
Total interest, &c.	1,646,884	1,714,416	67,532	—
Redemption of loans—expenses	2,125	12,284	10,159	—

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Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1890-91.	1891-92.		
	£	£	£	£
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.				
Customs and Excise	85,885	84,823	—	1,062
Harbours and lights	38,468	33,803	—	4,665
Total	124,353	118,626	—	5,727
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines	8,692	6,745	—	1,947
Miscellaneous services	102,614	55,555	—	47,059
Total	131,306	82,300	—	49,006
Total ordinary expenditure	9,128,699	8,482,917	—	645,782
Special expenditure (Melbourne Police Court Account).	44,217	20,139	—	24,078
Total expenditure—ordinary and special	9,172,916	8,503,056	—	669,860

Chief items of expenditure, 1890-91 and 1891-92, compared.

88. From this table it may be ascertained that a total increase in the ordinary expenditure, amounting to 224,196*l.*, took place under 11 heads, but a decrease of 869,978, under the other seventeen heads except one, (which remained stationary) resulting in a net decrease of nearly 646,000*l.* On the one hand the principal increases were 67,500*l.* in the interest on the public debt, owing to the increasing amounts borrowed for the construction of Railways; 22,400*l.* under the head of Legislature, consequent on the constitution of the Railways Standing Committee, the general election held in 1891–2, and the expenses of the *Purification of Rolls Act* 1891 (8,655*l.*); 17,500*l.* under Retiring allowances, gratuities, &c., resulting from the enforced retirement of sexagenarians; and of 11,000*l.* under Agriculture, chiefly on account of increased bonuses granted for agricultural products. On the other hand, there was an exceptionally large decrease of 344,000*l.* under Railways, of which, however, 114,00*l.* was in consequence of arrears to that extent being included in the previous year's accounts whilst the rest is due to the retrenchment and economy exercised; a decrease of 207,000*l.* under Public Works, of which 70,000*l.* resulted from a temporary reduction of the municipal subsidy, and the remainder from a smaller outlay on works and buildings generally; of 33,000*l.* under Water Supply, consequent on the expenses of the Melbourne Waterworks having been defrayed in 1891–92, for the first time, by the newly-constituted Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works; of 20,000*l.* under Judicial and legal; and 17,000*l.* under Civil Establishment, as a result of retrenchment. An accidental decrease of 70,500*l.* also appears

under State school buildings, works which have usually been constructed out of loan moneys. Although an increase of less than 3,000*l.* is noticeable under the head of Defences, a new item of 75,300*l.* (half being arrears on account of 1890–91) for Australian Naval Defences is included in 1891–92 for the first time; but as against this, there was a reduction of 58,000*l.* under Local Defence Works—none having been constructed in 1891–92; and 14,500*l.* in other items, of which nearly 9,000*l.* alone was saved by the usual annual encampment not having been held during that year. A falling-off of 107,000*l.* under Railway construction account is mainly owing to the proceeds of the sale of land by auction, which fell off by 26,000*l.* having been temporarily diverted therefrom to the "Land Sales by Auction Fund" under which head appears the whole of such proceeds for 1891–92.

Grants to agricultural, dairying, and other industries.

89. In order to promote the agricultural, dairying, fruit, and wine industries, there has been appropriated during the last three years an amount of 233,000*l.* of which 171,000*l.* was to be distributed as bonuses under Regulations framed by the Governor-in-Council. The expenditure to the end of 1891–92 on these objects amounted to 86,038*l.*, of which 44,500*l.* was paid away during that year, and there remained a balance unappropriated of 146,932*l.* The following are the particulars:—

Grants for promoting Agriculture and other Industries.

Heads of Expenditure.	Total Amount Authorised.	Amount Expended.		Balance available 1st July, 1892.
		During 1891-92.	Total to end of 1891-92.	
	£	£	£	£
Bonuses to growers of grapes, fruits, and general vegetable products -	55,000	5,689	5,876	49,124
Bonuses to factories for fruit canning and drying, dairying, raisin and currant making, vegetable oil making; preparing hemp, flax, silk, &c., for the manufacturer - - - -	37,000	3,202	12,265	24,735
Bonuses for dairy produce, and fruits of best quality and in best order, exported to foreign markets	79,000	28,156	50,174	28,826
For the importation of new varieties of seeds and plants - -	3,000	67	243	2,757
For supplying instruction in connexion with the introduction of new vegetable products and the improvement of existing agricultural methods - - -	43,000	5,231	13,528	29,472

cus publishing company, inc.

Heads of Expenditure.	Total Amount Authorised.	Amount Expended.		Balance available 1st July, 1892.
		During 1891-92.	Total to end of 1891-92.	
	£	£	£	£
For the introduction of new machinery and appliances to perfect the treatment of new agricultural products, and to improve present agricultural methods, and for prizes for new inventions in general agricultural appliances -	4,000	145	501	3,499
For publishing agricultural reports in connexion with the educational work of the experts, &c. -	11,000	1,988	3,481	7,519
For the encouragement of planting and cultivating forest trees of an economic character - -	1,000	—	—	1,000
Total - - -	233,000	44,499	86,068	146,932

Expenditure of loans, &c.

90. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1886–87 and during each subsequent year. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure by exhibiting those items which having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1892.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.							
	Prior to 1886-87.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways - -	22,171,402	1,711,160	1,774,721	3,083,211	2,933,087	2,786,562	613,157	35,073,390
Water supply :—								
Melbourne -	1,804,424	148,356	277,749	222,343	434,413	124,037	165,968	3,177,293
Country - -	2,644,085	225,638	184,813	261,725	361,855	503,520	272,529	4,454,165
Law courts and Parliament Houses -	448,987	32,770	44,954	37,563	25,270	229	—	589,773
Public offices -	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences - -	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings - - -	1,013,933	49,284	—	—	—	—	—	1,063,217
Yarra bridge -	28,050	42,561	25,391	12,524	—	—	—	108,526
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	81,159	47,856	53,344	54,279	18,095	13,076	65	267,874
Total - -	28,794,528	2,257,625	2,360,972	3,671,645	3,772,723	3,427,424	1,051,719	45,336,636

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91. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts received, under various heads of revenue, in the respective Australasian Colonies during the most recent year for which the particulars are available. The figures have all been derived from official sources:—

Heads of expenditure of Australasian Colonies.

Heads of Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Heads of Revenue.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
Taxation:—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs, &c. -	2,388,961	2,168,264	1,201,685	617,590	237,686	376,139	1,552,780
Other taxes -	760,349	748,080	300,619	212,158	26,989	126,000	626,959
Total - -	3,149,310	2,916,344	1,502,304	829,748	264,055	502,139	2,179,739
Crown lands - -	519,584	2,266,636	514,352	258,966	101,980	84,145	335,428
Railways - -	3,098,252	3,407,983	1,000,082	1,285,276	63,001	168,046	1,114,055
Post and telegraphs	502,806	648,553	216,122	260,828	31,335	74,150	330,932
Other sources -	459,620	796,690	173,127	245,605	37,239	55,718	186,347
Total - -	7,729,572	10,034,186	3,405,987	2,829,453	497,670	884,198	4,146,231
Taxation:—							
Customs, &c. -	30·91	21·91	35·28	21·83	47·76	42·58	37·45
Other taxes -	9·83	7·45	8·83	7·50	5·39	14·27	15·12
Total - -	40·74	29·06	44·11	29·33	53·05	56·85	52·57
Crown lands -	6·72	22·58	15·10	9·15	20·49	9·53	8·09
Railways - - -	40·09	33·96	29·34	45·42	12·63	19·03	26·87
Post and telegraphs	6·50	6·46	6·35	7·42	6·30	8·28	7·98
Other sources -	5·95	7·94	5·08	8·68	7·49	6·31	4·49
Total - - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

NOTE.—The figures of revenue and expenditure for Victoria are for the 12 months ended 30th June, 1892, but those for the other colonies are for the calendar year 1891. Refunds of revenue, drawbacks, and such similar entries, are rigidly excluded from the accounts of revenue and expenditure of Victoria and New Zealand, but are included in those of New South Wales and Queensland; also, it is believed, in those of some of the other colonies.

Proportion of revenue from different sources.

92. It will be observed that the proportion of revenue raised by taxation—chiefly derived from Customs duties—varied from about 29 per cent. in New South Wales and South Australia to 57 per cent. in Tasmania, the proportion in Victoria being 41 per cent., or lower than in any other colonies except the two former. The revenue from Railways also formed a very large proportion of the total revenue of all the colonies, varying from about an eighth in Western Australia to over two-fifths of the whole in Victoria and South Australia. The Crown lands revenue varied in the different colonies from 7 to 23 per cent. of the whole—the former proportion prevailing in Victoria and the latter in New South Wales; and that from Post and Telegraphs from 6⅓ to 8¼ per cent.

Heads of revenue in Victoria and New South Wales compared.

93. It will be remarked that the land revenue was nearly four and a half times as large in New South Wales as in Victoria, which item alone nearly accounts for the larger total revenue of

Victoria, 1892.

the former colony. If the land revenue be deducted from the total revenues of the two colonies, the revenue of New South Wales, notwithstanding the cross entries in the returns of the former already alluded to, would then exceeds the revenue of Victoria by only 560,000*l*, the respective amounts for 1891 being 7,770,000*l*. and 7,210,000. It also appears that the railway revenue of New South Wales exceeds that of Victoria by about 300,000*l*.; in the former Colony it forms one-third, and in the latter two-fifths, of the total revenue. The total taxation of Victoria was greater than that of New South Wales by only 233,000*l*., the excess appearing chiefly under the head of Customs. As to other heads, the revenue in New South Wales from Post and Telegraphs exceeded that in Victoria by 146,000*l*., but in connexion with this it should be remembered that official correspondence and telegrams are charged for in the former, but travel free in the latter colony and that the revenue from "Other Sources" was larger by about 337,000*l*.

Loan expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

57. In addition to the expenditure of amounts derived from the general revenue, as shown in the last two tables, all the colonies spend large sums of borrowed money, chiefly on railways and waterworks, but, also, in some instances, on the construction of electric telegraphs, harbour works and lighthouses, defence works, roads and bridges, school buildings, and other public works, and on immigration. The following table shows the total loan expenditure of the various colonies during 1891, also the amounts per head:—

Expenditure from Loans in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Expenditure from Loans during year.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.
Victoria - - - -	3,427,195	3 0 6
New South Wales - - -	4,750,167	4 3 1
Queensland - - - -	1,296,259	3 4 1
South Australia - - -	488,869	1 10 4
Western Australia - - -	77,994	1 10 5
Total - -	10,040,484	3 5 8
Tasmania - - -	561,661	3 15 5
New Zealand - - -	346,324	0 11 0
Grand Total - -	10,948,469	2 17 1

Note.—In this table the figures for Victoria and South Australia relate to the year ended 30th June, 1891, those for the other colonies to that ended 31st December.

Loan expenditure of different Colonies compared.

95. It will be observed that the aggregate loan expenditure of the Australasian Colonies in 1891 was close on 11 millions sterling, of which Victoria spent nearly 3½ millions, New South Wales 4¾ millions, Queensland about 1¼ millions, South Australia nearly ½ a million and Tasmania over ½ a million. It will be noticed, moreover, that the loan expenditure per head of population was less in Victoria not only than in New South Wales—where it was highest—but also than in Queensland or Tasmania, although above that in any of the other colonies.

Taxation

96. The amounts whereof revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. In Victoria the former class consists of Customs and Excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licenses, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprises amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, from water supply, from post and telegraph offices, from the Mint, from fees fines, and forfeitures, from the interest on the public account, from the labour of prisoners, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle :—

Taxation, 1891–2.

	£
Revenue raised by taxation -	3,149,310
„ „ otherwise -	4,580,262
Total -	£7,729,572

Public debt.

97. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1892 to 46,711,287*l.*,* consisting of moneys—

	£
Borrowed in Victoria -	1,949,587
„ England -	44,761,700
Total -	£46,711,287

Purposes for which loans were incurred.

98 The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June 1892, was 58,154,907*l.*; but a total of 11,443,620*l.* having been repaid, viz., 2,379,200*l.* out of the general revenue, and 9,064,420*l.* out of the proceeds of redemption loans, the balance outstanding on the 30th June 1892 was reduced to 46,711,287*l.* The amount of public debt borrowed under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, the amount paid off, and the

* On the 30th June 1893 the public debt (exclusive of £750,000 Treasury Bills in aid of revenue) amounted to £47,144,562.

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amount outstanding on the 30th June 1892 are shown in the following table:—

Purposes for which Loans were Raised.

Public Borrowings contracted for—	Total Amount borrowed.	Amount— Paid off.	Outstanding 30th June 1892. Total.	Outstanding 30th June 1892. Percentage.
REVENUE YIELDING WORKS.	£	£	£	
Railways	36,793,806	344,200	36,449,6[illegible]	78·02
Tramways in country districts	200,000	—	200,000	·43
Water supply and irrigation—				
Melbourne	3,149,939	800,000	2,349,939	5·03
Country	5,005,216	—	5,005,216	10·72
Harbours and docks	275,554	—	275,554	·59
Graving-dock	350,464	—	350,464	·75
Total revenue yielding	45,774,979	1,144,200	44,630,779	95·54
OTHER WORKS OF A PERMANENT CHARACTER.				
Parliament houses	246,453	—	246,453	·53
Law courts	354,260	—	354,260	·76
Public offices	166,195	—	166,195	·36
Defence works	100,000	—	100,000	·21
State school buildings	1,105,557	—	1,105,557	2·37
Prince's Bridge, Melbourne	108,043	—	108,043	·23
Melbourne and Geelong improvements.	735,000	735,000	—	—
Total permanent works	2,815,508	735,000	2,080,508	4·46
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Treasury bonds in aid of revenue.	500,000	500,000	—	—
Net borrowings	49,090,487	2,379,200	46,711,287	100·00
Redemption of loans	9,064,420	9,064,420	—	—
Gross borrowings	58,154,907	11,443,620	46,711,287	—

Borrowings devoted to revenue-producing works.

99. It will be observed that at the present time 95½ per cent. of the Victorian borrowings has been devoted to railways, water-works, and other revenue-producing works, from which the State derives a considerable income. Only 4½ per cent. of the debt is not directly revenue-producing, and this has been expended on such useful and permanent works as bridges, defence works, State schools, public buildings, &c.

Debts of Australasian Colonies.

100. The following table shows the total amount of debt, and the indebtedness per head, in Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies, on the 31st December of every fifth year from 1875; also of the three years 1889, 1890, and 1891; also the number

of years' revenue the debt was equal to in each of those years:—

Public Debts of the Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	Year.	On the 31st December.		
		Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.	Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to.
		£	£ s. d.	
Victoria	1875	13,995,093	17 0 0	3·30
	1880	22,060,749	25 13 0	4·77
	1885	28,628,588	29 10 9	4·55
	1889	37,367,027	33 17 1	4·31
	1890	41,443,216	36 11 5	4·86
	1891	43,638,897	37 13 11	5·23
New South Wales	1875	11,470,637	19 6 0	2·78
	1880	14,903,919	19 18 6	3·04
	1885	35,564,259	37 9 1	4·69
	1889	46,646,449	43 2 4	5·15
	1890	48,425,333	45 3 4	5·11
	1891	48,771,549	41 17 1	4·86
Queensland	1875	6,435,250	35 1 0	4·72
	1880	12,192,150	53 18 7	7·56
	1885	19,320,850	61 4 10	6·80
	1889	25,840,950	67 18 2	7·51
	1890	28,105,684	71 17 4	8·62
	1891	29,457,134	71 15 9	8·65
South Australia	1875	3,320,600	15 15 7	2·90
	1880	9,865,500	36 17 5	4·86
	1885	17,020,900	54 6 2	7·37
	1889	20,435,500	64 13 4	9·00
	1890	21,151,500	66 5 6	8·27
	1891	21,133,300	64 17 5	7·47
Western Australia*	1875	135,000	5 1 1	·86
	1880	361,000	12 8 9	2·00
	1885	1,288,100	36 12 4	3·99
	1889	1,371,981	31 7 11	3·59
	1890	1,367,444	27 15 10	3·30
	1891	1,613,594	30 5 8	3·24
Tasmania	1875	1,489,400	14 7 4	4·35
	1880	1,943,700	16 18 9	4·42
	1885	3,357,000	25 19 5	5·88
	1889	5,019,050	35 6 0	7·39
	1890	6,432,800	44 5 6	8·48
	1891	6,990,940	45 16 2	7·92
New Zealand*	1875	17,400,031	46 5 11	6·18
	1880	28,583,231	58 19 0	8·71
	1885	35,790,422	62 4 5	8·74
	1889	38,483,250	62 9 4	9.64
	1890	38,832,350	62 1 8	9·23
	1891	38,713,068	61 1 1	9·34

* New Zealand has, as a set-off against the debt, an accrued sinking fund, which amounted on the 31st March 1892 to 1,035,449*l.* The net liability was thus 37,677,619*l.*, or 59*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* per head, being equal to nine times the revenue. Western Australia also has a sinking fund of 114,292*l.* The sinking funds in the other colonies are of no great importance.

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Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

101. If the amounts of debt at the latest period shown in the table be added together, it will be found that the aggregate debt of the Colonies on the continent of Australia was 144½ millions, being over 4 millions more than in 1890; and the aggregate debt of Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, somewhat exceeded 190¼ millions sterling, being 4½ millions more than in 1890. The following are the exact figures for 1891, also the proportion of indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the Colonies within the same limits: —

Public Debt of Australia and Australasia, 1891.

—	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	Per cent.
Continent of Australia - - -	144,614,474	46 9 3	5·76
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand - - - -	190,318,482	48 16 3	6·31

Debt per head higher in Australasia than in Australia.

102. It will be observed that a combination of the indebtedness of the insular colonies with that of the colonies upon the Australian Continent gives a proportion of debt per head higher by about 2*l.* 7*s.*, than such a proportion applied to the continental colonies alone, in explanation of which it will be remembered that, although, in proportion to population, Tasmanian indebtedness is somewhat below the average, New Zealand is the third most heavily indebted colony of the group.

Increase of debt in Australasia in 16 years.

103. During the year 1891 the public debt of Australasia, taken as a whole, increased by 4½ millions, or 2½ per cent., but the amount per head of population decreased by 5*s.* 3*d.* During the 16 years ended with 1891, the public debt increased by one hundred and thirty-six millions—or nearly fourfold—whilst the proportion per head more than doubled. The debt also increased in a much greater ratio than the public revenue, for whereas in 1875 it was equal to the income of the colonies for less than four years, and in 1880 to about five and a quarter years, in 1890 and

1891 it was equal to their income for over six and a quarter years This is shown by the following figures:—

Increase of Public Debt of Australasia, 1875 to 1891.

Year.	Debt of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head*.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	
1875	54,246,011	23 6 0	3·85
1880	89,910,249	33 0 8	5·27
1885	140,970,119	42 17 8	5·87
1890	175,164,207	47 10 11	6·15
1891	185,758,327	49 1 6	6·36
	190,318,482	48 16 3	6·31
Increase, 1875-91	136,072,471	25 10 3	2·46
„ in 1891	4,560,155	–0 5 3†	–·05†

104. The marriages celebrated in 1892 numbered 7,723, as against 8,780 in 1891, 9,187 in 1890, and 9,194 in 1889. Marriages, 1892.

105. The marriages returned in 1892, although fewer than in the six previous years, were more numerous than those in any year prior to those. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made which continued until 1890. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; in 1884 they exceeded 7,000; in 1888 they nearly reached 9,000; and in 1889 and 1890 they exceeded that number by nearly 200; but in 1891 they again fell below 9,000, and in 1892 they fell below 8,000. Marriages, 1892, and former years.

106. The proportion which the number of marriages bears to the total population is generally called the marriage rate. This for many years was declining in Victoria, for, whilst in the three years prior to 1863 it was above 8 per 1,000 of both sexes, and all ages, from 1863 to 1865 it was between 7 and 8, and from 1866 to 1878 it was between 6 and 7 per 1,000. It reached its lowest point, 5·98 per 1,000, in 1879; then gradually revived, until the period between 1888 and 1890, when it again exceeded 8 per 1,000, for the first time since 1862. In 1891 a somewhat sudden fall took place to 7·66 per 1,000, which was about the same average as that prevailing during the four years prior to 1888, and in 1892 a still further fall to 6·64. The following table gives the number of marriages and number of persons married per 1,000 of the Marriage rate

* In 1875 the population was 2,327,882; in 1880, 2,721,747; in 1885, 3,287,363; in 1889, 3,684,016; in 1890, 3,785,349; and in 1891, 3,899,036.

† Decrease.

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population during 1860 and each subsequent fifth year, also in 1891 and 1892:—

Annual Marriage Rate, 1860 *to* 1892.

Year.	Per 1,000 of the Mean Population.	
	Number of Marriages.	Numbers of Persons Married.
1860	8·15	16·30
1865	7·36	14·72
1870	6·63	13·26
1875	6·33	12·66
1880	6·22	12·44
1885	7·73	15·47
1890	8·21	16·42
1891	7·66	15·32
1892	6·64	13·28
Mean of 33 years	7·15	14·30

Marriage rates in Australasian Colonies.

107. The following table gives a statement of the number of marriages to every 1,000 of the population of the various Australasian Colonies for each fifth year from 1865 to 1890, also for 1891 and 1892, except Western Australia, for which colony the first year given is 1875:—

Marriage Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 *to* 1892.

Year.	Number of Marriages per 1,000 of Mean Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865	7·36	8·94	13·27	9·45	—	6·27	10·47
1870	6·63	7·85	7·80	6·90	—	6·62	7·62
1875	6·33	7·88	8·63	8·01	7·26	6·63	8·94
1880	6·22	7·68	6·97	8·69	7·42	7·38	6·71
1885	7·73	8·22	9·20	7·82	7·51	8·22	6·73
1890	8·21	7·15	8·28	7·04	6·18	6·64	6·12
1891	7·66	7·39	7·22	7·29	8·06	6·63	6·05
1892	6·64	6·77	6·67	6·50	7·36	6·51	6·23
Mean of 28 years	7·01	7·90	8·53	7·76	7·03	7·01	7·50

Marriage rates in colonies compared.

108. According to an average extending over a period of 28 years, the marriage rate in Victoria was identical with that in Tasmania, also almost identical with that in Western Australia but was below that in any of the other colonies; in the last year, however, the marriage rate in Victoria occupied a middle position, it being higher than that in South Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, but lower than that in the other three colonies.

109. The number of divorces which took place in each Australasian colony during 1890 and their proportions to the married persons of either sex returned at the census were as follow :—

Divorces in Australasian Colonies.

Divorces in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

Colony.	Number of Divorces.	Divorces per 100,000 Husbands.	Divorces per 100,000 Wives.
1. Western Australia - -	3	41·4	47·0
2. New South Wales - -	42	25·2	25·3
3. Victoria - - - -	40	23·4	23·0
4. New Zealand - - -	21	23·2	23·1
5. Queensland - - -	8	13·8	13·9
6. Tasmania - - -	2	8·5	9·3
7. South Australia - - -	2	4·1	4·1

110. If the divorces be compared with the number of marriages, the positions of the colonies remained unaltered, except that New Zealand rises above New South Wales and Victoria, and occupies the second position on the list instead of the fourth, thus :—

Marriages to each divorce in Australasian Colonies.

Marriages to each Divorce in each Australasian Colony, 1890.

—	Marriages to each Divorce.
1. Western Australia - -	93
2. New Zealand - - -	181
3. New South Wales - -	187
4. Victoria - - - -	230
5. Queensland - - - -	399
6. Tasmania - - -	477
7. South Australia - - -	1,117

111. The births registered in Victoria during 1892 numbered 37,831, as against 38,505 in 1891. The decrease in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 674.

Births, 1892.

112. During the 20 years ended with 1883, the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which continued during the seven subsequent years, the number of births in 1891 being the highest recorded. There was, however, a falling-off in 1892, as just stated.

Births in 1892 and former years.

113. In proportion to population, the births decreased steadily for a number of years. The lowest point was reached in 1882, since which year there was a gradual improvement until 1890, but in 1891 there was a slight falling-off, and a still further

Birth rate.

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falling-off in 1892. The following are the birth rates for 1860 and each subsequent fifth year, also in 1891 and 1892 :—

Annual Birth Rate, 1860 *to* 1892.

—	Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.
1860	42·81
1865	42·40
1870	38·07
1875	33·94
1880	30·75
1885	31·33
1890	33·60
1891	33·57
1892	32·54
Mean of 33 years	35·73

Birth rates in Australasian Colonies.

114. Returns of the births in all the Australasian Colonies are available to the end of 1892, and from these and the mean populations of the respective colonies during each year the birth rates have been calculated in the office of the Government Statist, Melbourne. The following table gives the birth rates of the different colonies for 1865 and each subsequent fifth year until 1890, also for 1891 and 1892 :—

Birth Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 *to* 1892.

Year.	Number of Births per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865	42·40	43·21	43·65	43·90	—	32·56	41·12
1870	38·07	40·09	43·51	38·48	—	30·18	42·32
1875	33·94	38·53	38·90	35·70	28·72	29·88	40·23
1880	30·75	38·80	36·92	38·94	32·35	32·91	40·78
1885	31·33	37·79	37·80	38·47	35·22	36·18	34·78
1890	33·60	35·36	39·93	32·63	34·69	33·49	29·44
1891	33·57	34·50	36·35	33·92	34·85	33·37	29·01
1892	32·54	33·90	35·84	32·32	33·01	32·48	27·83
Mean of 28 years	34·36	38·38	39·41	37·54	34·35	32·16	37·64

Low birth rates in Australasian Colonies in 1892.

115. In 1892 the birth rate was below the average in all the colonies except Tasmania. In New South Wales, South Australia and New Zealand the rate was absolutely the lowest recorded during the whole period of 28 years, that for the last named colony (28 per 1,000), moreover, being the lowest recorded in any Australasian Colony since 1864. In Victoria the rate was lower than in the previous four years, but higher than in any other year since 1876. In Western Australia it was lower than in any other year since 1880, and in Tasmania than in any other since 1879.

Deaths, 1892.

116. The deaths registered in 1892 numbered 15,851, as against 18,631 in 1891. There was thus a decrease in the year under notice of 2,780, or 15 per cent.

Excess of births over deaths.

117. The births in 1892 exceeded the deaths by 21,980 or 139 per cent., the corresponding proportion being 107 per cent. in the previous year. The proportion in 1892 was exceeded in 1865, and the six years ended with 1873, but in no other year. In the 10 years ended with 1890 the proportion averaged 107 per cent., and in the 10 years ended with 1880 it averaged 119 per cent., whilst during the 28 years ended with 1892 the average was 118 per cent. The following were the births and deaths in 1865 and in each subsequent fifth year, also in 1891 and 1892, and the excess of the former over the latter:—

Excess of Births over Deaths, 1865 to 1892.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
			Numerical.	Centesimal.
				Per Cent.
1865	25,915	10,461	15,454	148
1870	27,151	10,420	16,731	161
1875	26,720	15,287	11,433	75
1880	26,148	11,652	14,495	124
1885	29,975	14,364	15,611	109
1890	37,578	18,012	19,666	109
1891	38,505	18,631	19,874	107
1892	37,831	15,851	21,980	139
Total in 28 years	814,578	374,108	440,470	118

Years in which births doubled deaths.

118. It may be remarked that the births more than doubled the deaths in all the years except 1875, 1876, 1882, and 1889.

Annual death rate.

119. The folowingt able shows the estimated mean population of either sex, the number of deaths of either sex, and the death rate

of males and females, and of both sexes, during 1860 and each subsequent fifth year, also in 1891 and 1892:—

Annual Death Rate, 1860 *to* 1892.

Year.	Estimated Mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total
1860 -	331,979	202,475	7,134	4,927	21·49	24·33	21·49
1865 -	347,083	264,135	6,158	4,303	17·74	16·29	17·11
1870 -	392,159	321,036	6,114	4,306	15·59	13·41	14·61
1875 -	419,779	367,553	8,563	6,724	20·40	18·29	19·42
1880 -	446,445	403,898	6,610	5,042	14·81	12·48	13·70
1885 -	504,000	452,880	8,300	6,064	16·47	13·39	15·01
1890 -	589,310	529,190	10,369	7,643	17·60	14·44	16·10
1891 -	600,860	546,070	10,666	7,965	17·75	14·59	16·24
1892 -	606,990	555,720	9,098	6,753	14·99	12·15	13·63
Average of 33 years					16·82	14·47	15·74

NOTE.—In 1860 and 1875, especially in the former year, the death rate was swelled by epidemics of measles and scarlatina.

Male and female death rate compared.

120. It will be noticed that in all the years shown, except 1860, death bore more hardly upon males than upon females. The figures in the lowest line of the table show that, over a period of thirty-three years, the deaths of males per 1,000 of the same sex living exceeded by 2¼ the deaths of females per 1,000 of that sex living.

Death rates in Australasian Colonies.

121. The proportion which the deaths that occurred in each Australian Colony bore to the total population of that colony during 1865 and each subsequent fifth year, also in 1891 and 1892, will be found in the following table:—

Death Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 to 1892.

Year.	Number of Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Populations.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 -	16·97	16·49	21·42	14·30	—	13·40	15·13
1870 -	14·61	13·38	14·59	13·94	—	13·88	11·13
1875 -	19·42	18·42	23·80	19·45	17.88	20·00	15·92
1880 -	13·70	15·47	13·59	14·85	13·24	16·12	11·46
1885 -	15·21	16·48	20·19	12·73	17·61	15·89	10·74
1890 -	16·10	12·90	14·61	12·40	12·00	14·74	9·66
1891 -	16·24	14·24	12·77	13·26	16·96	15·30	10·35
1892 -	13·63	12·20	12·65	11·38	16·63	13·53	10·06
Mean of 28 years	15·62	15·24	17·30	14·35	16·10	15·29	11·52

Sickness and infirmity.

122. The total number of persons returned as suffering from infirmity at the date of the census of 1891 was 23,916, viz., 14,675 males and 9,241 females. These numbers furnish proportions of 210 infirm persons in every 10,000 of the population; or of 245 infirm males in every 10,000 males, and 171 infirm females in every 10,000 females.

Two classes of infirmities.

123. The infirmities are of two classes:—(1.) Those causing total disablement for the time being, but from which it is probable complete recovery might take place sooner or later; (2) those of a permanent character, but which would not generally prevent the sufferer from engaging in some kind of bread-winning occupation. Besides these, some persons were returned as suffering from ailments of a minor description, which in a few instances have been considered of sufficient importance to be mentioned in the tables, whilst in others they have been entirly disregarded.

Sickness and accidents.

124. The persons included in the first of these classes are those returned as unable to attend to their ordinary occupations by reason of sickness or accident. These numbered as follow:—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Disabled from sickness - -	7,590	5,334	12,924
Disabled from accident - -	1,379	289	1,668
Total - -	8,969	5,623	14,592

Proportion of disabled persons.

125. The sick were in the proportion of 113, and those laid up in consequence of accidents were in that of 15, to every 10,000 of the population. The two combined, representing those entirely disabled for the time being, but not, as a rule, permanently affected, were thus in the proportion of 128 to every 10,000 living, or 1 in 78. A similar combination gives a proportion of 150 disabled males in every 10,000 males living, or 1 in 67; of 104 disabled females in every 10,000 females living, or 1 in 96.

Time lost through disablement.

126. It will be easily realised that the community sustains considerable loss, as well as inconvenience, in consequence of some portion of its component parts being always laid up on account of illness or bodily injury. Of those so affected, the children are obliged to discontinue their studies, the men their work or business, and the women their household duties as long as the disablement lasts. Takingt he sick and those suffering from accidents together, there were on the census day 14,592 persons, viz., 8,969 males and 5,623 females, in a disabled condition. Supposing the census day to have been an average one as regards the amount of infirmity prevailing, there would obviously in one year be an amount of work lost from this cause equal to that of 1 person for 14,592 years, or of 1 male for 8,969 years, and of 1 female for 5,623 years. Or putting it in other words, there would, if Sundays

be included, be 5,326,080 days' work lost on account of illness in the year, viz., 3,273,685 by males, and 2,052,395 by females or, if Sundays be not included, there would be 4,567,296 days' work lost, viz., 2,807,297 by males and 1,759,999 by females This is altogether irrespective of the loss occasioned by illnesses of a slight or partial character, not serious enough to cause work to be altogether discontinued, which, according to instructions, were not to be returned, or of the loss to others occasioned by attendance on sick persons, or by reason of deaf-muteism, blindness, lunacy, &c. A consideration of these figures will show that, irrespective of the distress, destitution, and mental suffering occurring amongst families by reason of the deaths of their members, the outbreak of every epidemic disease which visits a country must seriously affect its material wealth and prosperity, and therefore that, on economic as well as on moral grounds, those who promote and enforce sanitary laws and regulations are deserving of high commendation and support.

Average period of disablement.

127. According to the figures, the average number of days' disabling infirmity in the course of one year experienced by each person in the community is 4·67, or 5·47 days by each male and 3·79 days by each female. If working days only be considered, each person on the average loses by this 4 such days, each male losing 4·69 and each female 3·25 such days.

Sickness and accidents in Australasian Colonies.

128. All the Australasian colonies took advantage of the taking of the census to obtain returns of sickness and accidents. According to the following figures, the proportion of those disabled from these causes was higher in Victoria than in any other colony :—

Sickness and Accidents in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Persons Disabled from Sickness or Accidents.	
	Number.	Persons living to each Disabled Person.
1. Victoria - -	14,592	78
2. South Australia - -	3,938	81
3. New South Wales -	11,578	98
4. Queensland - -	3,746	105
5. Tasmania - -	1,321	111
6. New Zealand - -	5,076	123
7. Western Australia -	304	164
Total - -	40,555	94

Defective returns in some colonies.

129. With reference to the high position of Victoria relatively to several of the other colonies in regard, not only to sickness, but to most of the other infirmities respecting which information

was obtained, it may be remarked that whilst Victoria has made inquiries on these subjects at the last four censuses, some of the other colonies of the group made such inquiries for the first time in 1891. For obvious reasons, a new inquiry is not likely to be so fully or so correctly responded to as one to which both the census collectors and the public have become accustomed, and a first attempt is likely to result in defective information and partial failure, as did the first attempt made in Victoria to obtain particulars of sickness and infirmity 30 years prior to the census which forms the subject of this report, viz., in 1861. It will be readily understood, in regard to such a return as that under notice, that the more accurate and perfect the statistics, the worse position the country to which they relate appears to be in, and the more unfavourably will it seem to compare with other countries in which the returns are of a less complete character. VICTORIA. 1892.

130. The second class of infirmities embraces defects or injuries which are generally permanent, but which often do not disable the sufferers from following some description of labour, and do not always prevent them from earning their own livelihood. These, with the number of persons affected, were as follows:— The partially disabled.

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Sufferers from paralysis - -	650	447	1,097
„ „ epilepsy - - -	203	217	420
„ „ deaf-muteism - -	204	160	364
„ „ blindness - -	612	383	995
„ „ eye affections - -	94	90	184
„ „ lunacy - - -	2,077	1,693	3,770
„ „ idiotcy - -	214	141	355
„ „ lameness, mutilation, deformity, &c. - -	1,652	487	2,139
Total - -	5,706	3,618	9,324

131. The deaf and dumb were in the proportion of 3·19 per 10,000 persons living; of 3·41 deaf and dumb males per 1,000 males, and of 2·95 deaf and dumb females per 10,000 females. These proportions, stated in other words, are 1 deaf-mute in 3,133 of the total population, or 1 in 2,933 of the males and 1 in 3,387 of the females. Deaf-muteism.

132. In proportion to population, deaf-mutes appear to have been most common in South Australia, and more common than in Deaf-muteism in Australasian Colonies.

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Victoria not only in that colony but in Queensland, Tasmania, and New South Wales. The following are the proportions :—

Deaf-muteism in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

1. South Australia	had	1	deaf-mute	in every	1,369	persons.
2. Queensland	„	1	„	„	2,557	„
3. Tasmania	„	1	„	„	2,716	„
4. New South Wales	„	1	„	„	2,867	„
5. Victoria	„	1	„	„	3,133	„
6. New Zealand	„	1	„	„	3,775	„
7. Western Australia	„	1	„	„	4,526	„

lindness.

133. Blind persons in Victoria were in the proportion of 8·72 per 10,000 persons living; blind males in that of 10·23 to every 10,000 males, blind females in that of 7·07 to every 10,000 females. There was thus one blind person in every 1,146 of mixed sexes, or one blind male in every 978 males and one blind female in every 1,415 females.

Blindness in Australasian Colonies.

134. The colony which, according to the following figures, contained the largest proportion of blind persons was Tasmania, Western Australia standing second and Victoria third. In New Zealand the proportion of blind persons to the total population appears to be very low indeed :—

Blindness in Australasian Colonies 1891.

1. Tasmania	had	1	blind person	in every	889	persons.
2. Western Australia	„	1	„	„	922	„
3. Victoria	„	1	„	„	1,146	„
4. South Australia	„	1	„	„	1,297	„
5. New South Wales	„	1	„	„	1,517	„
6. Queensland	„	1	„	„	1,978	„
7. New Zealand	„	1	„	„	2,287	„

Lunacy.

135. The lunatics returned at the census numbered 3,770, viz., 2,077 males and 1,693 females. All of these except 100, viz., 78 males and 22 females, were detained in the Government lunatic asylums. Lunatics were in the proportion of 33·06 per 10,000 of the population, viz., 34·71 male lunatics per 10,000 males living and 31·24 female lunatics per 10,000 females living. Thus one person in every 302, or one male in every 288, and one female in every 320, was a lunatic.

Lunacy in Australasian Colonies.

136. The census gave a return of the number of lunatics in all the Australasian Colonies except Queensland. The proportion to the population appears to have been highest in Victoria and next

highest in New Zealand, whilst the proportions were lowest in Western Australia and Tasmania :— VICTORIA. 1892.

Lunacy in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

1. Victoria	had 1 lunatic in every		302	persons
2. New Zealand	,,	,,	349	,,
3. New South Wales	,,	,,	359	,,
4. South Australia	,,	,,	376	,,
5. Tasmania	,,	,,	383	,,
6. Western Australia	,,	,,	386	,,

137. The persons returned as idiots and imbeciles in Victoria numbered 355, viz., 214 males and 141 females. Of these, 98, viz., 66 males and 32 females, were in the Kew Idiot Asylum. Idiots and imbeciles were in the proportion of 3·11 per 10,000 of the population; 3·58 such males per 10,000 males, 2·60 such females per 10,000 females. These proportions may be otherwise stated as one idiot or imbecile person in every 3,212 persons, one such male in every 2,796 males, one such female in every 3,844 females. Idiots.

138. Idiots and imbeciles, like lunatics, were returned in all the Australasian Colonies except Queensland. They seem to have borne the highest proportion to the population in Tasmania, and next in Victoria, the proportions in New Zealand and Western Australia, especially the latter, being very low indeed. The following are the proportions in each of the colonies in which the return was obtained :— Idiotcy and imbecility in Australasian Colonies.

Idiotcy and Imbecility in the Australasian Colonies, 1891.

1. Tasmania	had 1 idio or imbecile person in every			3,188	persons
2. Victoria	,,	,,	,,	3,212	,,
3. South Australia	,,	,,	,,	3,815	,,
4. New South Wales	,,	,,	,,	3,930	,,
5. New Zealand	,,	,,	,,	4,896	,,
6. Western Australia	,,	,,	,,	7,112	,,

139. Lunacy combined with idiotcy and imbecility may be designated insanity. If the combination be made the sufferers in Victoria would number 4,125, viz., 2,291 males and 1,834 females, the proportions being 36·17 insane persons per 10,000 of both sexes, or one in 276; 38·29 insane males per 10,000 males, or one in 261; 33·84 insane females per 10,000 females, or one in 295. Insanity.

140. The idiots and imbeciles being but few in number, as compared with the lunatics, the different colonies stand in the same order in reference to the combination of the two as they do in reference to the lunatics when dealt with singly, except in the Insanity in Australasian Colonies.

case of South Australia and Tasmania, which change places. The following are the figures :—

Insanity in the Australasian Colonies, 1891.

1. Victoria	had 1 lunatic or idiot	in	every	276	persons
2. New Zealand	,,	,,	,,	325	,,
3. New South Wales	,,	,,	,,	329	,,
4. Tasmania	,,	,,	,,	341	,,
5. South Australia	,,	,,	,,	342	,,
6. Western Australia	,,	,,	,,	366	,,

Lameness, mutilation, deformity, &c.

141. The census under review was the first at which an inquiry was made as to the number of crippled, mutilated, or deformed persons in Victoria. Some particulars respecting such persons were voluntarily given in 1871 and 1881, but, as may be supposed, the numbers set down on these occasions fell very short of those actually existing. The following is the return obtained in 1891 :—

Lameness, Mutilation, Deformity, &c.

Nature of Affliction.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Lost an arm	6	12	98
,, both arms	2	—	2
,, ,, and one leg	1	1	2
,, use of an arm	3	4	7
,, ,, and both feet	1	—	1
,, a hand	61	4	65
,, use of a hand	2	1	3
,, a leg	146	25	171
,, ,, and two fingers	1	—	1
,, use of a leg	9	2	11
,, a foot	43	5	48
,, limbs	183	37	220
,, use of limbs	1	3	4
,, an eye	887	256	1,143
,, ,, and deaf	2	—	2
,, ,, deaf, and a cripple	1	—	1
,, ,, and fingers	6	—	6
,, ,, and injury to leg	2	—	2
,, ,, and lame	1	—	1
,, ,, and nearly blind	1	—	1
,, ,, and rheumatic	1	—	1
Lame	117	83	200
,, and deaf	—	1	1
,, and nearly blind	—	1	1
Injured knee	3	2	5
Bad leg	1	1	2
Cripple	61	34	95
,, and infirm	—	1	1
Contracted sinews	1	—	1
Deformed back	4	—	4
,, foot	5	1	6
,, hip	1	—	1
,, leg	1	—	1
,, eyes	1	—	1
,, undefined	14	8	22

Nature of Affliction.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Born with only one arm -	—	1	1
„ „ hand - -	1	1	2
Cleft palate - -	—	1	1
Curvature of spine - -	2	2	4
Total - -	1,652	487	2,139

142. The total number of injured and deformed persons, as given in the table, was in the proportion of 18·76 to every 10,000 of the population, or one in 533; the proportion of males so afflicted was 27·61 per 10,000 males living, or one in 362; and the proportion of females so afflicted was 8·99 per 10,000 females living, or one in 1,113. Proportions of injured and deformed persons.

143. Besides the maimed and deformed persons to whom reference is made in the table, a number were returned who had received minor injuries or who were only slightly deformed. Amongst these, who were not considered sufficiently important to be tabulated, there were 115 males and 17 females who had lost fingers, and 12 males who had lost toes. Minor injuries.

144. For the first time, in pursuance of a suggestion made by the Government Statist of Victoria in his Report upon the Census of 1881, all the Australasian Colonies except Queensland obtained returns of lameness, mutilation, and deformity in 1891. Comparing the numbers in the different colonies with their respective populations, Victoria, according to the following figures, occupied the lowest position but one, the highest place being occupied by Tasmania, and the lowest by New Zealand:— Lameness, mutilation, &c. in Australasian Colonies.

Lameness, Mutilation, and Deformity in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

1. Tasmania had one crippled, mutilated, or deformed person in every 104 persons.
2. Western Australia had one crippled, mutilated, or deformed person in every 178 persons.
3. New South Wales had one crippled, mutilated, or deformed person in every 312 persons.
4. South Australia had one crippled, mutilated, or deformed person in every 413 persons.
5. Victoria had one crippled, mutilated, or deformed person in every 533 persons.
6. New Zealand had one crippled, mutilated, or deformed person in every 640 persons.

145. During 1892 there were 13 banks of issue in Victoria, possessing therein 512 branches or agencies. There were only 12 banks of issue in the Colony both in 1887 and 1882. Number of banks.

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Liabilities, assets, &c. of banks.

146. The position of the banks as regards the liabilities and assets in Victoria, and the capital and profits of those banks not only in Victoria but elsewhere, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the three years just named, was as follows :—

Financial Position of Banks, 1882, 1887, *and* 1892.

	1882.	1887.	1892.
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Notes in circulation	1,448,953	1,461,068	1,210,565
Bills in circulation	121,206	67,899	132,235
Balances due to other banks	301,053	418,435	170,191
Deposits not bearing interest	6,826,822	9,241,018	9,672,997
„ bearing interest	16,798,271	25,974,529	30,355,173
Total	25,496,305	37,192,949	41,541,161
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	2,860,645	6,512,573	7,895,397
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	341,088	326,146	373,890
Landed and other property	959,301	1,388,617	1,962,707
Notes and bills of other banks	144,650	178,933	131,786
Balances due from other banks	380,475	292,994	264,935
Debts due to the banks	26,562,427	38,034,062	52,631,227
Total	31,248,586	46,733,325	63,169,942
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.			
Capital stock paid up	9,432,250	10,109,742	11,556,250
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared.	10·221 per cent.	12·024 per cent.	11·149 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared	482,050	611,371	644,250
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend.	2,913,070	5,187,750	6,131,579

Liabilities, assets, &c., compared at three periods.

147. It will be observed that the shareholders' capital (including reserves) amounted in 1892 to nearly 17¾ millions, having increased by 5,343,000*l.*, or by nearly three-sevenths, since 1882. The total liabilities showed an increase of 16 millions, or 63 per cent., since 1882, or of more than 4½ millions, or 12 per cent., since 1887; whilst the total assets increased by 32 millions, or 102 per cent., since 1882, and by 16½ millions, or 35 per cent., since 1887. This expansion in banking business has been greater than that of the population, which, during the 10 years ended with 1892 increased by only 27 per cent. Of the liabilities the notes and bills in circulation have fallen off by 15 per cent. since 1882, and 12 per cent. since 1887, the former having been

restricted by a Government tax and other charges, which are said to average as much as 3½ per cent. The deposits, which amounted to 96 per cent. of the total liabilities, have increased by nearly 16½ millions in the last 10, and by more than 4¾ millions in the last 5, years, and amounted to over 40 millions. Under the head of assets it will be noticed that in 1892 the banks had 8⅙ millions sterling in coin and bullion, which was over one million more than in 1891, about one million more than in 1890, over 1⅓ millions more than in 1887, and about 5 millions more than in 1882; the landed property also represented close on 2 millions sterling, showing an increase of over 574,000*l.* since 1887, or of 1,003,000*l.* since 1882; but the most important item of all, the advances (debts due to the banks), which embrace 83 per cent. of the total assets, shows a marked advance from period to period, for since 1882 they have increased by nearly 26 millions, and since 1887 by more than 14½ millions, and in 1892 they amounted to over 52½ millions sterling. It will be observed that in 1892 the advances exceeded the deposits by more than 12½ millions, as against an excess of less than 3 millions in 1887 or 1882. The average rate of the last dividend declared in 1892 (11*l.* 3*s.* per 100*l.*) was lower than at the middle period, but higher than at the first period. This dividend, it may be remarked, varied in different banks in 1892 from 5 to 17½ per cent.

Percentage of items of liabilities and assets.

148. The following table shows the proportion of each item of the liabilities to the total liabilities, and of each item of the assets to the total assets, of the banks at the same periods:—

Liabilities and Assets of Banks.—Percentage of Items.

—	1882.	1887.	1892.
LIABILITIES.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Notes in circulation	5·68	3·93	2·91
Bills in circulation	·48	·18	·32
Balance due to other banks	1·18	1·20	·41
Deposits not bearing interest	26·78	24·85	23·29
„ bearing interest	65·88	69·84	73·07
Total	100·00	100 00	100·00
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	9·16	13·94	12·35
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	1·09	·39	·59
Landed and other property	3·07	2·97	3·11
Notes and bills of other banks	·46	·38	·21
Balance due from other banks	1·22	·63	·42
Debts due to the banks	85·00	81·39	83·32
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00

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Analysis of bank returns.

149. The folllowing results are arrived at by analysing the bank returns at the three periods :—

The liabilities amounted to { 81·59 per cent. of the assets in 1882 / 79·59 " " 1887 / 65·76 " " 1892

Coin and bullion formed { 10·25 per cent. of the assets in 1882 / 14·63 " " 1887 / 12·94 " " 1892

Of the moneys deposited { 71·10 per cent. bore interest in 1882 / 73·76 " " 1887 / 75·83 " " 1892

Former periods and 1892 compared.

150. It will be observed that in 1892 the liabilities bore a very much lower proportion to the assets than in 1887 or 1882; that coin and bullion bore a decidedly larger proportion to the assets than in 1882, but a smaller proportion than in 1887; and that of the moneys deposited a somewhat larger proportion bore interest at the last period than in 1887 or 1882.

Imports and exports of Australasia, 1892.

151. The following is a statement of the value of the imports and exports in the Australasian Colonies during the year 1892:—

Imports and Exports of Australasian Colonies, 1892.

Colony.	Total Value of—		Excess of—	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports over Exports.	Exports over Imports.
	£	£	£	£
Victoria - - -	17,159,613	14,214,546	2,945,067	—
New South Wales - -	20,475,818	21,920,037	—	1,444,189
Queensland - - -	4,248,441	8,578,071	—	4,329,630
South Australia - -	7,395,178	7,819,539	—	424,361
Western Australia - -	1,391,109	882,148	508,961	—
Total - -	50,670,189	53,414,341	—	2,744,152*
Tasmania - - -	1,497,171	1,346,965	150,206	—
New Zealand - -	6,942,016	9,536,899	—	2,594,883
Grand Total - -	59,109,376	64,298,205	—	5,188,829*

* Net figures.

152. A statement of the extent of land under, and produce of the principal crops grown in Victoria in the season 1892–3, is subjoined:

Agriculture in Victoria, 1892–3.

Wheat	1,342,504 acres,	14,814,645	bushels.
Oats	177,645 „	4,574,816	„
Barley	37,533 „	774,207	„
Potatoes	40,594 „	142,623	tons.
Hay	512,648 „	740,049	„
Green forage	249,719 „	—	
Other crops	609,472 „	—	
Total	2,970,115	—	

Wages.

153. The following table contains a statement of the average rate of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1892. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

*Wages in Melbourne.**

RETURN of the Rates of Wages paid in Melbourne during the Year 1892.

	Description of Labour.		Rate.
	1.—DOMESTIC SERVANTS.		
Males	Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners	per week, with board and lodging	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Males	Butlers	„ „	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females	Cooks	per annum, „	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Females	Laundresses	„ „	40*l.* to 52*l.*
Females	Housemaids	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Nursemaids	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	General servants	„ „	20*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Girls	per week, „	8*s.* to 10*s.*
	2.—HOTEL SERVANTS.		
Males	Barmen	per week, with board and lodging	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Males	Waiters	„ „	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Males	Boots	„ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Males	Ostlers	„ „	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Males	Cooks	„ „	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females	Barmaids	„ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Females	Waitresses	„ „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Females	Housemaids	per annum „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Cooks	„ „	50*l.* to 100*l.*

* The wages quoted for rural occupations, such as farm and station servants, shearers, &c. apply to instances in which the engagement is made in Melbourne.

Description of Labour.			Rate.
3.—FARM SERVANTS.			
Males	Ploughmen	per week, and found	20*s.* to 25*s.*
	Farm labourers	" "	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Milkmen for dairies	" "	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Cheesemakers	" "	25*s.* to 40*s.*
	Reapers*	per acre, "	10*s.* to 15*s.*
	Mowers*	" "	4*s.* to 6*s.*
	Threshers*	per bushel, "	5*d.* to 7*d.*
	Cooks	per annum, "	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females	Dairy milkmaids	" with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*
	Cooks	" "	30*l.* to 40*l.*
	General servants	" "	20*l.* to 30*l.*
Married couples (generally useful)		" "	60*l.* to 80*l.*
Hop-pickers		per bushel	2*d.* to 3½*d.*
Maize-pickers		per bag	4*d.* to 6*d.*
4.—STATION SERVANTS.			
Males	Boundary riders	per annum with rations	40*l.* to 60*l.*
	Shepherds	" "	36*l.* to 52*l.*
	Stockmen	" "	50*l.* to 60*l.*
	Cooks	" "	60*l.* to 70*l.*
	Labourers	per week, "	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Drovers	" "	25*s.* to 40*s.*
	Sheepwashers	" "	15*s.* to 25*s.*
	Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	15*s.* to 16*s.*
Females	Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 60*l.*
	General servants	" "	30*l.* to 45*l.*
Married couples		" with rations	70*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—WORKERS IN BOOKS, &c.			
Printers—Compositors		per 1,000, without board and lodging	1*s.* 1*d.*
" Machinists		per week, "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Lithographers		" "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Binders		" "	2*l.* 16*s.* to 4*l.*
Paper rulers		" "	2*l.* 16*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)		" "	15*s.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*
6.—IN WATCHES, JEWELLERY, AND PRECIOUS METALS.			
Watchmakers		per week, without board and lodging	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Manufacturing jewellers		" "	2*l.* to 4*l.*

* Of late years the greater part of the reaping, mowing, and threshing has been done by machinery.

Description of Labour.		Rate.
7.—IN METALS OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER.		
Blacksmiths	per day, without board and lodging	9*s.* to 11*s.*
Die sinkers	per week,	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Engravers	" "	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*
Farriers—Firemen	" "	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
" Floormen	" "	2*l.* to 2*l.* 2*s.*
Hammermen	per day, "	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	" "	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Turners	" "	9*s.* to 11*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	" "	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Riveters	" "	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Lamp makers	per week, "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pattern makers	per day, "	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Moulders	" "	10*s.* to 11*s.* 6*d.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	" "	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week, "	2*l.* 8*s.* to 2*l.* 14*s.*
Japanners	" "	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	" "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 6*s.*
Galvanizers	" "	2*l.* to 3*l.* 6*s.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	" "	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
8.—IN CARRIAGES AND HARNESS.		
Smiths	per week, without board and lodging	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
Bodymakers	" "	1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Wheelers	" "	2*l.* to 2*l.* 8*s.*
Painters	per day, "	6*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.*
Trimmers	per week, "	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vicemen	" "	1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.*
Collar-makers	" "	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Harness-makers	" "	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Saddle-makers	" "	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Saddle-tree makers	" "	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
Whip-makers	" "	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
9.—SHIPS AND BOATS.		
Sailors—Sailing vessels	per month, and found	3*l.* to 4*l.*
" Steamships	" "	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day, without board and lodging	13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	" "	12*s.*
10.—IN HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.		
Masons	per day, without board and lodging	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Plasterers	" "	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Bricklayers	" "	9*s.* to 10*s.*

Description of Labour.		Rate.
Slaters	per day, without board and lodging	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Carpenters	„ „	9*s.* to 10*s.*
Labourers	„ „	6*s.* to 7*s.*
Painters and glaziers	„ „	7*s.* to 10*s.*
11.—IN FURNITURE, &c.		
Cabinetmakers	per week, without board and lodging	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Carvers	„ „	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Turners	per day, „	7*s.* to 10*s.*
Upholsterers	per week, „	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 3*s.*
Polishers	„ „	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Coopers	per day, „	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—WORKERS IN DRESS.		
Tailors	per hour, without board and lodging	10*d.* to 1*s.*
„	per week „	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ in factories	„ „	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Mantlemakers	„ „	13*s.* to 30*s.*
Milliners, first class	„ „	3*l.* to 4*l.*
„ second class	„ „	15*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Corsetmakers	„ „	15*s.* to 35*s.*
Dressmakers	„ „	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen	„ „	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Bootmakers	riveting children's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.	5*d.*
„	machine sewing children's and boys' boots, per pair, without board and lodging.	6*d.* to 9*d.*
„	riveting boys' boots, per pair, without board and lodging.	7½*d.* to 9*d.*
„	riveting women's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.	8*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*
„	machine sewing women's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.	1*s.* 1*d.*
„	riveting men's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.	11*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*
„	machine sewing men's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.	1*s.* 5*d.*
„	making wellingtons to order, sewn, without board and lodging.	13*s.* 6*d.*
„	making wellingtons to order, pegged, without board and lodging.	8*s.* 6*d.*
„	making elastics to order, sewn, without board and lodging.	10*s.*
„	making elastics to order, pegged, without board and lodging.	7*s.* 6*d.*
machinists	per week, without board and lodging	10*s.* to 25*s.*
Hatters—Gossamer trade—		
„ Bodymakers—silk hats,	per dozen „	10*s.* to 22*s.*
„ Finishers „	„ „	12*s.* to 24*s.*
„ Shapers „	„ „	4*s.* to 12*s*
„ Crown sewers „	„ „	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*
„ Trimmers „	„ „	6*s.* to 9*s.*
„ Felt hat trade—		
„ Bodymakers	per week, without board and lodging	3*l.* 5*s.*
„ Blockers	„ „	3*l.*
„ Finishers	„ „	3*l.*
„ Shapers	„ „	3

Description of Labour.			Rate.
Hatters—Felt hat trade—*continued.*			
„ Binders (female)	per week, without board and lodging		24*s.*
„ Trimmers „	„	„	20*s.*
Clothing Factories—			
Tailoresses	„	„	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Pressers	„	„	1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
Shirtmakers	„	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists	„	„	15*s.* to 30*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen	„	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
13.—In Food.			
Bakers—Foremen	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ Second hands	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Butchers—Shopmen	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
„ Slaughtermen	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ Boys	„	with board	1*l.* to 1*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*
„ Small-goods men	„	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Maltsters	„		2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
14.—In Animal Matters.			
Brushmakers	per week, without board and lodging		1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*
Curriers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners	„	„	30*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen	„	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen	„	„	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers	„	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Portmanteau—trunkmakers	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
15.—In Vegetable Matters.			
Basket-makers	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* to 3*l.*
Broom-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Cigar-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Cigarette-makers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tobacco-workers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Cork-cutters	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
16.—In Stone, Clay, &c.			
Brickmakers	per 1,000, without board and lodging		14*s.* to 15*s.*
Brickmakers' labourers	per day,	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*
Glassblowers	per week,	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Navvies	per day,	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.*
Potters	per hour,	„	10½*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Quarrymen	per day,	„	7*s.* to 11*s.*
Labourers	„	„	6*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard,	„	2*s.* to 4*s.*
Asphalters	per day,	„	8*s.* to 9*s.*

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Description of Labour.	Rate.
17.—IN MINES.	
General managers - - per week, without board and lodging -	3*l.* to 10*l.*
Legal „ - - - „ „ -	10*s.* to 6*l.*
Mining „ - - „ „ -	2*l.* 10*s.* to 9*l.*
Engineers - - - „ „ -	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
Engine-drivers - - - „ „ -	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pitmen - - - - „ „ -	2*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Blacksmiths - - - „ „ -	2*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.*
Carpenters - - - - „ „ -	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l*
Foremen of shift - - „ „ -	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 6*s.*
Miners - - - - „ „ -	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s*
Surfacemen (labourers) - - „ „ -	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys - - - - - „ „ -	12*s.*6*d.* to 1*l.* 10*s.*
Chinese - - „ „ -	1*l.* to 2*l.*

Prices.

154. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows for the same year. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c. is naturally somewhat higher, and that of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne:—

Average Prices in Melbourne, 1892.

Articles.	Year, 1892.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.	
Wheat - - - per bushel	3*s.* 2*d.* to 4*s.* 5*l.*
Barley—	
Malting - - - „	3*s.* to 4*s.* 2*d.*
Cape - - - - „	2*s.* 1*d.* to 3*s.* 10½*d.*
Oats - - - - „	1*s.* 8*d* to 2*s.* 10*d.*
Maize - - - - „	2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*
Bran - - - - „	8*d.* to 11½*d.*
Hay - - - - per ton	3*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Flour, first quality - - „	8*l.* to 12*l.*
Bread - - - - per 4 lb. loaf	5*d.* to 6*d.*
GRAZING PRODUCE.	
Horses—	
Draught - - - each	10*l.* to 40*l.*
Saddle and Harness - - „	8*l.* to 25*l.*
Cattle—	
Fat - - - „	6*l.* to 11*l.* 10*s.*
Milch cows - - - „	3*l.* 10*s.* to 15*l.*
Sheep, fat - - - „	8*s.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*
Lambs, fat - - - „	5*s.* to 12*s.*
Butchers' meat—	
Beef, retail - - per lb.	2*d.* to 8*d.*
Mutton „ - - - „	2*d.* to 5*d.*
Veal „ - - - „	2½*d.* to 8*d.*
Pork „ - - - - „	6*d.* to 8*d.*
Lamb „ - - - per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s* 6*d.*

Articles.		Year, 1892.
DAIRY PRODUCE.		
Butter, retail	per lb.	8*d.* to 2*s.*
Cheese „	„	7*d.* to 1*s.*
Milk	per quart	3*d.* to 5*d.*
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.		
Geese	per couple	4*s.* to 10*s.*
Ducks	„	4*s.* to 7*s.*
Fowls	„	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Rabbits	„	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Pigeons	„	1*s.* to 2*s.*
Turkeys	each	5*s.* to 15*s.*
Sucking pigs	„	5*s.* to 12*s.*
Bacon	per lb.	8*d.* to 1*s.*
Ham	„	10*d.* to 1*s.*
Eggs	per doz.	8*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.		
Potatoes—		
Wholesale	per ton	2*l.* to 4*l.* 5*s.*
Retail	per cwt.	2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Onions, dried	„	4*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches.	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Turnips	„	6*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Radishes	„	4*d.* to 1*s.*
Cabbages	per doz.	9*d.* to 4*s.*
Cauliflowers	„	1*s.* to 5*s.*
Lettuces	„	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Green peas	per lb.	1*d.* to 5*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.		
Tea (Duty paid)	per lb.	5¾*d.* to 2*s.*
Coffee „	„	8*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.*
Sugar „	per ton	14*l.* to 25*l.* 10*s.*
Rice „	„	15*l.* to 22*l.* 10*s.*
Tobacco (in bond) :—		
Imported mftd.	per lb.	1*s.* to 2*s.* 3*d.*
Colonial „	„	2*s.* 3*d.* to 5*s.*
Soap, colonial	per ton	10*l.* to 28*l.*
Candles, sperm	per lb.	5*d.* to 8½*d.*
Salt	per ton	3*l* 10*s.* to 5*l.* 15*s.*
Coals	„	18*s.* to 22*s.*
Firewood	„	9*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.*
WINES, SPIRITS &c.		
Ale (duty paid)	per hhd.	5*l.* 10*s.* to 8*l.*
„ „	qts. per doz.	9*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.*
Stout „	per hhd.	5*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*
„ „	qts. per doz.	9*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.*
Brandy, in bulk (in bond)	per gall.	5*s.* to 20*s.*
Rum „ „	„	2*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*
Whisky „ „	„	3*s.* to 15*s.*
Port wine (in bond)	per pipe	22*l.* to 120*l.*
Sherry (in bond)	per butt	25*l.* to 140*l.*
Claret, &c. (in bond)	per doz.	16*s.* to 90*s.*
Champagne (in bond)	„	33*s.* to 102*s.*

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155. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1893."

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